



US President Barack Obama speaks during a news conference in Germany. Obama and top Republicans in Congress joined forces Wednesday on a quick, bi-partisan rescue attempt for the administration's trade agenda, left for dead in the House last week in a revolt carried out by Democrats and backed by organized labor. (AP Photo/Carolyn Kaster) PAGE 2

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At Press Time:

Obama, Republicans Mounting Rescue Effort on Trade Deal

D. ESPO

C. BABINGTON

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP)

— President Barack Obama and top Republicans in Congress joined forces Wednesday on a quick, bipartisan rescue attempt for the administration's trade agenda, left for dead in the House last week in a revolt carried out by Democrats and backed by organized labor.

Officials said the Republican-controlled House would vote Thursday on a stand-alone bill to give Obama the enhanced negotiating authority the administration seeks as part of an effort to complete a 12-nation trade deal with Pacific Rim countries.

In addition, House Speaker John Boehner and Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell issued a firm pledge that the Republican-controlled Congress



House Speaker John Boehner of Ohio speaks during a news conference on Capitol Hill in Washington. Boehner and Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell issued a firm pledge that the Republican-controlled Congress will pass trade legislation "in a timely manner" providing continued aid to workers who lose their jobs because of imports — a key demand of Democrats.

(AP Photo/Pablo Monsivais)

will pass legislation "in a timely manner" providing continued aid to workers who lose their jobs because of imports — a key demand of Democrats.

At the White House, Obama held a pair of meetings with pro-trade Democrats to try and firm up their support for the rescue strategy — sessions scheduled so hastily that they took place just before the annual White House picnic for lawmakers.

The fast-paced developments marked an episode unlike any other in a recent period of divided government, the president and his customary Republican rivals working in harness to thwart the wishes of members of Obama's own party.

The trade measure would allow Congress to approve or reject any deal the administration negotiates, but not change it. Previous presidents have enjoyed the same authority, known as "fast track."

A total of 28 Democrats voted with Republicans last week to grant Obama enhanced negotiating authority.

The entire bill derailed when the vast majority of Democrats voted against the package of aid for displaced workers in hopes of rejecting the entire trade package. Normally, the aid program is a Democratic priority and has little

support among Republicans, but in this case, union-backed Democrats voted it down in hopes of scuttling the entire package.

By now separating the two portions of the legislation into separate bills, the Republican leadership and the White House are counting on strong Republican support to approve the trade negotiating authority, as was the case last week.

This time, they calculate that most Democrats will recognize that the rest of the trade agenda is headed to the White House, and will be willing to approve the aid for displaced workers that they voted down just last week.

Sen. Dianne Feinstein and other Democrats said they wanted Obama to sign both bills at once, and the statement from McConnell and Boehner appeared designed to reassure them that no matter what the timing, both measures would make it to his desk.

"We are committed to ensuring both ... get votes in the House and Senate and are sent to the president for signature," their statement said.

White House spokesman Josh Earnest earlier sought to create space for maneuvering on the precise timing of legislation, telling reporters, "The only legislative strategy that the president can support is one that will result in both pieces of legislation arriving at his desk."

He added: "Now, there's also this fundamental question ... about whether or not they have to arrive at the same time, on the same day, as part of the same legislative vehicle or separately. That's exactly what's being discussed on Capitol Hill."

Earnest also predicted that all of the 28 pro-trade House Democrats would be willing to follow the rescue strategy, as long as the aid package made it to the White House on its own. □

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Prosecutor: Worker discussed murder-for-hire in US jail run

MARY ESCH
Associated Press

PLATTSBURGH, New York (AP) — A prison worker charged with helping two convicted murderers escape from a maximum-security facility in the state of New York had discussed with them a murder-for-hire plot involving her husband, authorities said Wednesday. The two fugitives made their escape from the prison near the Canadian border June 6 and hundreds of law enforcement officers have been engaged in an intense manhunt in the area ever since. Clinton County District Attorney Andrew Wylie said at a news conference that Joyce Mitchell, a prison tailoring shop instructor who befriended the two inmates, talked to them

about the possibility of them killing her husband, Lyle, who also worked at the prison. Lyle Mitchell arrived with his attorney Wednesday at a local police unit to talk to investigators, the Press-Republican of Plattsburgh reported. Meanwhile, police expanded the search for the killers beyond a 16-square-mile (40-square-kilometer) area of woods, fields and swamps where the manhunt has been most intense. Police stepped up roving patrols and were checking the hundreds, if not thousands, of seasonal homes and hunting camps in the region. Authorities say that rain has been washing away any scent dogs might find and interfering with thermal imaging devices being used



Law enforcement officers walk in a field along Route 3 in Saranac, N.Y. Hundreds of law enforcement personnel continue searching for David Sweat and Richard Matt, two killers who used power tools to cut their way out of Clinton Correctional Facility in Dannemora in northern New York. (AP Photo/Mike Groll)

to detect body heat. David Sweat, 35, was serving a life sentence without parole in the killing of a sheriff's deputy. Richard Matt, 48, was doing 25 years to life for the kidnap, torture and hacksaw dis-

memberment of his former boss. Mitchell is charged with helping the killers flee by providing them with hacksaw blades, chisels and other tools. She was visited in jail Tuesday by her hus-

band. Clinton County Sheriff David Favro described Joyce Mitchell as "composed" during the visit. Prosecutors say Mitchell had agreed to be the getaway driver but backed out because she still loved her husband and felt guilty for participating. Investigators have no information that Lyle Mitchell knew about the escape plan or assisted in it, Wylie said. Joyce Mitchell was charged last week with supplying contraband, including a punch and a screwdriver, to the two inmates. She has pleaded not guilty. She has been suspended without pay from her job overseeing inmates who sew clothes and learn to repair sewing machines. □

Feds: Man charged in alleged plot by Islamic State group

TOM HAYS
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — A college student was arrested on Wednesday in the investigation of an alleged plot to support the Islamic State group by using homemade explosives to attack New York City targets. Fereed Mumuni, 21, was ordered held without bail on attempted murder charges accusing him of trying to kill an FBI agent with a large kitchen knife in a struggle while agents

who were executing a search warrant at his Staten Island home. The agent escaped serious harm thanks to his body armor, authorities said. Mumuni became the latest defendant in the spate of cases in the city involving young men and women allegedly radicalized by Islamic State propaganda. Most have been accused either of trying to travel abroad to fight with the militant group or of talking about attacks on U.S. soil on the group's

behalf, but not getting far enough to put civilians at risk. After his arrest, Mumuni told investigators he had pledged allegiance to the Islamic State, according to government papers. If he couldn't join the group overseas, he intended to attack law enforcement officers at home, the papers added. Outside federal court in Brooklyn, defense attorney Anthony Ricco denied that Mumuni was an Islamic State convert. Ric-

co said his client is a practicing Muslim with a clean record who attends the College of Staten Island. The arrest surprised his family, who "know him as a quiet, soft-spoken person," Ricco added. Court papers described Mumuni as a co-conspirator of Munther Omar Saleh, another college student whose arrest on charges of supporting terrorism was announced Tuesday. The papers say Saleh has described himself as a "full-fledged" member of the

Islamic State. Electronic surveillance revealed that he had researched how to build a pressure-cooker bomb and looked up New York City landmarks and tourist attractions on the Internet, the papers say. In one intercepted conversation, Saleh told a confidential source, "I'm in NY and trying to do an Op," the papers say. In a later conversation, Saleh said he was under orders from Islamic State officials to cut off contact with the source, the papers say. □



Deadly balcony collapse tied to rotted wooden beams

**LISA LEFF
MARTHA MENDOZA
Associated Press**

BERKELEY, Calif. (AP) — The balcony collapse that killed six college students

Mayor Tom Bates said investigators believe the wood was not caulked and sealed properly at the time of construction and was damaged by moisture

13 people 50 feet onto the pavement. In addition to the six killed, seven were seriously hurt. "More than likely it was caused by rain and

he is not blaming the victims. Later in the day, however, the mayor said that the water-damage theory was speculation on his part and not an official conclusion, and that the investigation is still underway. Building inspectors also determined another balcony at the Library Gardens apartment complex was "structurally unsafe and presented a collapse hazard," and it ordered it demolished.

Two other balconies were red-tagged, or declared off-limits, at the apartments, which were completed in 2007 and are popular among visiting students and those at the nearby University of California, Berkeley. Segue Construction, the Library Gardens general contractor, was involved in two San Francisco Bay Area lawsuits in recent years involving allegations of dry rot and substandard balconies at condo and apartment projects in Millbrae and San Jose. Among other things, Segue was accused of improperly wa-

terproofing balconies.

Both cases were settled in 2013 with Segue, developers and other parties agreeing to pay millions. Segue spokesman Sam Singer said such litigation is common on large projects and "has no bearing on the tragedy in the Berkeley." "They are completely different projects. They are completely different types of balconies," he said. Singer said of the balcony collapse: "Segue Construction has never had an incident like this in its history."

Cassandra Bujarski, a spokeswoman for the apartments' property management firm, Greystar, had no comment.

Across the Atlantic, flags flew at half-staff around Ireland and the country's parliament suspended normal business as the nation mourned the dead: Ashley Donohoe, 22, of Rohmert Park, California, and Olivia Burke, Eoghan Culligan, Niccolai Schuster, Lorcan Miller and Eimear Walsh, all 21-year-olds from Ireland. □



Toni Mikulka places flowers at a makeshift memorial for victims of a balcony that collapsed in Berkeley, Calif. (AP Photo/Jeff Chiu)

appears to have been caused by rotted wooden beams, Berkeley's mayor said Wednesday as the victims' heartbroken loved ones began arriving in the U.S. from Ireland.

as a result. The crowded fifth-floor balcony broke off an apartment building during a 21st-birthday party held by visiting Irish college students Tuesday, dumping

caused by water damage that was done to the support beams," Bates said. He said it was "obviously a bad idea" for 13 people to crowd onto such a small balcony but added that

Mom, stepdad plead guilty to fleeing country with daughter

LANCASTER, New Hampshire (AP) — A mother and stepfather entered surprise guilty pleas Wednesday to charges they fled the country more than a decade ago with the woman's daughter amid a custody dispute. Genevieve and Scott Kelley pleaded guilty during a pretrial hearing to misdemeanor charges of custodial interference. Additional felony charges of custodial interference and witness tampering were dropped. The plea deal calls for Genevieve Kelley to serve 10

months in jail after Scott Kelley serves five months; the sentences were staggered so their 10-year-old son will not be without a parent. The couple took then-8-year-old Mary Nunes out of the country in 2004. They said they did it to protect the girl and accused her father, Mark Nunes, of abuse. Mark Nunes was investigated but never charged, and investigators said they thought he was unfairly accused. Genevieve Kelley, 51, turned herself in in November, saying she wanted to

go to trial. Scott Kelley, 50, was arrested at the Atlanta airport in April when he and Mary Nunes, now 19, returned to the U.S. from Costa Rica. Nunes was allowed to continue her trip because she was not charged with a crime, though authorities would not reveal her final destination. At the hearing Wednesday, Alan Rosenfeld, one of Genevieve Kelley's two lawyers, told the judge he thought she was being coerced into pleading guilty, threatened by the possibility of a felony conviction that could bring a prison term of

up to five years on each of two counts. "I couldn't be part of it," said Rosenfeld. "Originally, a similar plea bargain had been rejected by Genevieve Kelley a few months ago and in order to get her to accept it, the prosecutor brought these absolutely frivolous charges." Judge Peter Bornstein initially said he couldn't accept a plea bargain because of Rosenfeld's objection. Kelley asked that her other lawyer, John McKinnon, be allowed to accept the plea. After a lunch break, Rosenfeld

told the judge there were no threats made against Genevieve Kelley and the judge accepted the plea. "She and Scott very much want to get on with their lives," Rosenfeld said. "They want the finality." Mark Nunes was traveling from the hearing Wednesday afternoon and could not immediately comment. A call to Scott Kelley's lawyer was not immediately returned. Rosenfeld said Mary Nunes intends to return to New Hampshire to live with the Kelleys when their jail terms are completed. □

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US rights leader asked if she tried to mislead university

M. BARAKAT
N. K. GERANIOS
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A civil rights leader, who has posed for years as a black woman, faced tough questions about her racial identity long before this week's revelations that she grew up "Caucasian" derailed her career.

More than a decade ago, Howard University's lawyers questioned whether Rachel Dolezal he had tried to pose as African-American when she applied for admission to the historically black college in the U.S. nation's capital.

Dolezal had accused the university of denying her a teaching position because she was white. During a deposition, Howard's lawyers asked whether she had tried to mislead the admissions office with an essay focused on black history and identity, according to court documents reviewed by The Associated Press.

"I plunged into black history and novels, feeling the relieving release of understanding and common ground," she wrote in the essay. "My struggles paled as I read of the atrocities

so many ancestors faced in America."

Dolezal resigned her NAACP post this week after

police ombudsman commission.

Her lawsuit against Howard never reached trial; a court

During the deposition, Dolezal denied trying to mislead anyone, saying she was "talking about

that I'm a hundred percent African-American."

Asked to explain what she considers her own race to be, she said, "if you have to choose to describe yourself and you're able to give terms like a fraction or whatever but an overall picture, I consider myself to be Caucasian biologically."

Asked by NBC's Matt Lauer this week if she is an "African-American woman," Dolezal said: "I identify as black."

Civil rights leaders in Spokane are openly worrying about the damage all this has done to their efforts to move the region beyond a troubled racial past.

"I think it is a setback," said Virla Spencer, 36, who is black. "It's sad we have to focus so much on this when there is so much more work to do." Dolezal, who lives in Coeur d'Alene, resigned Monday as president of the Spokane branch of the NAACP, saw her biography removed from the website of Eastern Washington University, where she was as a part-time African studies instructor, and was fired as a freelance newspaper columnist. □



In this 2009 photo, Rachel Dolezal stands in front of a mural she painted at the Human Rights Education Institute office in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. Dolezal faced tough questions about her racial identity long before this week's revelations that she grew up "Caucasian" derailed her career. (AP Photo/Nicholas K. Geranios)

her parents accused her of posing as black despite her Czech, German and Swedish ancestry. She now faces a swirl of allegations about other statements, challenging her credibility. On Wednesday, an independent investigation by the city of Spokane concluded that she acted improperly and violated government rules while leading the city's volunteer

said she failed to prove her claims and ordered her to pay the university's legal costs.

In the essay, she described her family as "transracial," and writes, "At the early age of three I showed an awareness of the richness and beauty of dark skin when I said, 'Mama, all people are beautiful but black people are so beautiful.'"

black history in novels."

At another point, she was asked more broadly if she had ever misled anyone into thinking she was black.

"I don't know that I could lead anyone to believe that I'm African-American. I believe that, you know, in certain context, maybe someone would assume that, but I don't know that I could convince someone

Delivery by drone in 30 minutes? Amazon says it's coming

STEPHEN OHLEMACHER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Online U.S. retail giant Amazon told Congress Wednesday it is developing the technology to use drones to deliver packages in 30 minutes or less, a broad expansion of unmanned flight that is raising concerns about safety, security and privacy. Using commercial drones to quickly deliver packages is probably years away. But when government

regulations catch up with emerging technologies, it could revolutionize the way people shop for items they need quickly, said Paul E. Misener, vice president of global public policy for Amazon.com.

"If a consumer wants a small item quickly, instead of driving to go shopping or causing delivery automobiles to come to her home or office, a small, electrically-powered (drone) vehicle will make the trip faster and more

efficiently and cleanly," Misener told the House Oversight Committee.

The Federal Aviation Administration proposed rules in February that would severely restrict the use of commercial drones. The House panel held a hearing Wednesday on their economic potential as well as concerns about safety and privacy.

FAA's proposed rules would require operators to keep commercial drones within eyesight at all times,

which significantly limits the distance they can fly. The restriction probably would prevent drone delivery as proposed by Amazon.

FAA Deputy Administrator Michael Whitaker said more research is needed before the government allows their widespread use.

"We are working diligently to develop a regulatory framework that will allow for innovation while ensuring the safety of other

users of the airspace and people and property on the ground," Whitaker told the committee.

The rules should be finalized within a year, Whitaker said.

Misener urged Congress and the FAA to speed up the rules and to reconsider some of the restrictions for commercial drones. He said the technology exists to safely operate commercial drones well beyond the eyesight of the operator. □

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Despite cold-shortened season, US maple syrup production up

LISA RATHKE

Associated Press

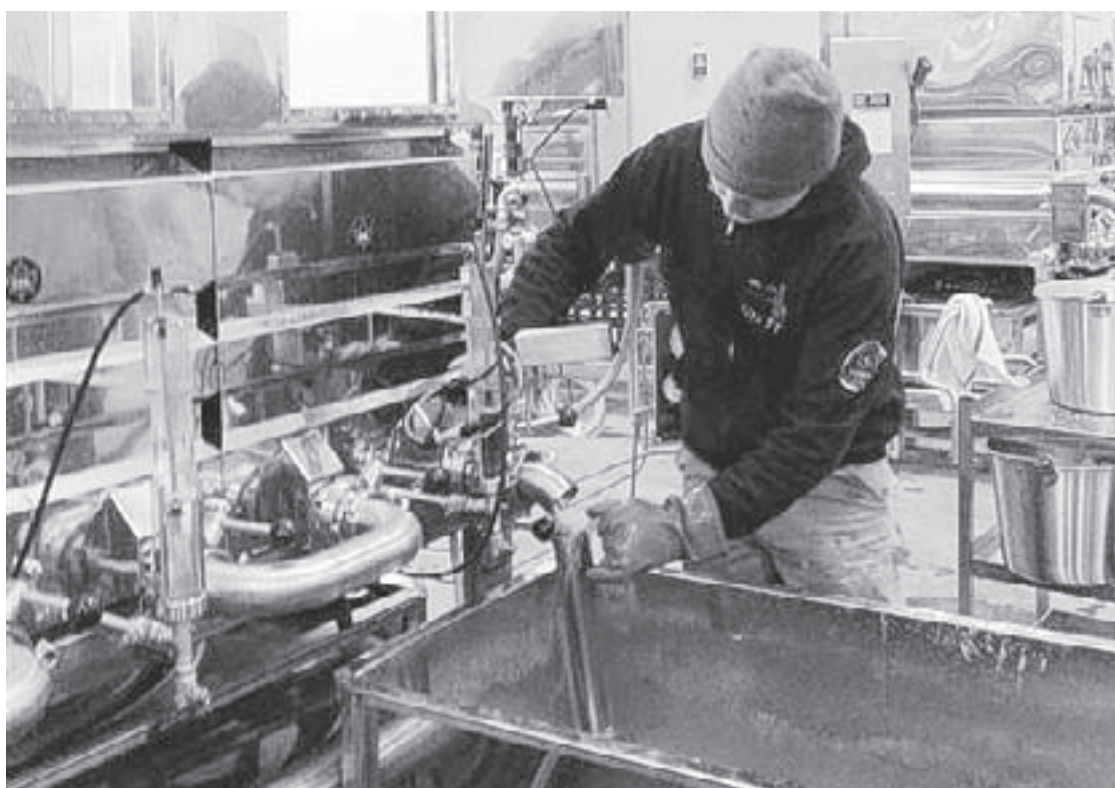
MONTPELIER, Vt. (AP) —

Colder-than-normal temperatures shortened the Northeast's maple sugaring season this year, but overall syrup production in the U.S. managed to stay strong, according to the United States Department of Agriculture.

Maple syrup production was up 6.3 percent this season from a year ago, the agency said in a report released last week, and an increase in the number of taps collecting sap from the trees likely contributed to the boost.

The number of taps was up 4 percent, while yields per tap rose 2 percent nationally.

The country produced 3.4 million gallons of maple syrup in 2015, with Vermont — the country's largest maple producer — yielding about 40 percent of the total, or 1.3 million gallons. New York produced 601,000 gallons, followed by Maine at 553,000 gallons. The only state that saw a drop was



Jon Cox of East Charleston, Vt., checks the density of maple syrup being boiled at the Sweetree LLC plant in Island Pond, Vt. The U.S. Department of Agriculture said maple syrup production was up in the 2015 season. Vermont continues to lead the nation by far, producing most of the syrup in the country, followed by New York and Maine.
(AP Photo/Lisa Rathke)

Ohio, which produced 115,000 gallons this year, down from 130,000 gallons in 2014. The state also reported a decrease in taps from 450,000 to 440,000 this year.

Dan Brown, president of

the Ohio Maple Producers Association, said it was an average year for Ohio following a bumper crop in 2014.

"Ohio did have a tough year in places," he said. "It was a late start and then

the temperatures were too constant. We just didn't get the freeze thaw like we really need to make it flow."

Colder temperatures in the Northeast in February and March — which is when

sap is typically collected — shortened the average season by three to four days. The earliest sap flow was reported Jan. 1 in Vermont and the latest sap flow to start the season was March 18 in New Hampshire, according to the USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service.

"It was an average year overall," said Pam Green, chairwoman of the Vermont Maple Sugar Makers Association and co-owner of Green's Sugarhouse in Poultney, Vermont. "Because of the late start of the season, people at higher elevations had more of a problem getting started and then it warmed up quickly after that."

Despite the late start for some, the quality of the syrup was excellent and some producers even had a bumper crop, she said.

"It may have been shorter but when it ran, it ran," said Gary Keogh, state statistician for the New England field office of the USDA's NASS based in Concord, New Hampshire. □

US poultry producer investigated after undercover video

A. LEE MYERS

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Police are investigating a major U.S. poultry producer after an animal-rights group shot undercover video showing some chickens being slammed upside-down into metal shackles, punched and having their feathers pulled out while they were still alive.

The video, obtained by The Associated Press in advance of its release Wednesday, was shot by the Los Angeles-based Mercy for Animals, which advocates against eating meat. The group said the

footage was shot between April and June at a slaughterhouse and farms in California owned by Foster Farms, a top poultry manufacturer on the west coast of the United States.

Spokesman Tony Botti said police are investigating the allegations after receiving a complaint from Mercy for Animals.

Foster Farms said in a statement that the company has launched its own investigation and will fully cooperate with authorities.

"The behavior of the individuals in this video is inappropriate and counter to our stringent animal wel-

fare standards, procedures and policies," the statement said. "We believe raising chickens humanely is simply the right thing to do, and we take our commitment to humane values very seriously."

Employees get annual training in how to handle chickens and those who violate standards are subject to discipline, including firing, the company said.

Foster Farms employs about 12,000 people, and "what's on this video does not reflect the company's culture and policies," the company said.

Among the footage, work-

ers are shown throwing bins of live chicks onto the ground, after which some are shown apparently unable to move. Other footage shows what Mercy for Animals said are the bodies of chickens boiled alive after missing an automatic knife that's supposed to slit their necks at the slaughterhouse.

Foster Farms is certified as being humane by the Washington, D.C.-based American Humane Association, founded in 1877 and recognized by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Matt Rice, director of investigations for Mercy for

Animals, said his group believes the footage is emblematic of operations at Foster Farms and that the company's management took no corrective actions after abuse was reported by an undercover employee. Government statistics show that hundreds of thousands of chickens are accidentally dropped alive into scalding tanks every year, but that represents a small fraction of those slaughtered. Last year, the rate at which chickens were improperly slaughtered plummeted to a low of 0.008 percent, agriculture officials say. □



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US Financial Front:

Fed is moving toward rate hike, but just when still unclear

M. CRUTSINGER

AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Federal Reserve took note Wednesday of a strengthening U.S. economy and appears on track to raise interest rates this year for the first time in nearly a decade.

But Chair Janet Yellen declined to say just when or how fast the Fed would act.

In a statement after its latest policy meeting, the Fed noted that the job market, the housing industry and consumer spending are all improving. At the same time, it made clear it wants to see further economic gains and higher inflation before raising rates from record lows. Even after the Fed begins raising rates, Yellen stressed at a news conference that it will likely do so very gradually.

Once the Fed begins raising short-term rates, the impact will range widely.

Other rates — for mortgages, auto loans, corporate borrowing — could head higher. Stock and bond prices could be squeezed. All but two of its 17 policymakers signaled their belief that the Fed will raise its key short-term rate at some point this year. That rate has been held near zero since 2008. Many analysts predict that if the economy keeps improving, the Fed will raise rates in September.

The Fed's decision, which had been expected, was approved on a 10-0 vote. Carl Tannenbaum, chief economist at Northern Trust, noted that the Fed's policymakers appear sharply divided over how aggressively the Fed will raise rates: Five expect one increase this year, five foresee two increases and five three increases. Two don't expect any increase this year.

"If you're an investor trying to get a clear view of what

monetary policy might be going forward, there is still a great deal of uncertainty," said Carl Tannen-

baum, chief economist at Northern Trust. "We are expecting the first move in September," Tannenbaum said. "But I am not expecting them to move aggressively there-



Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen speaks during a news conference following a Federal Open Market Committee meeting in Washington, Wednesday, June 17, 2015. The Federal Reserve says the U.S. economy has strengthened since a slump early this year but wants to see further gains in the job market and higher inflation before raising interest rates from record lows.

(AP Photo/Manuel Balce Ceneta)

after. I think they'll try to be quite cautious ... there are still fragile parts of the world economy that might

be unsettled by a rapid increase in American interest rates."

At her news conference, Yellen said of a timetable for the first rate hike:

"I can't give an ironclad promise, but I think it's clear from our summary of economic projections that we anticipate that the economy will grow, that the labor market will improve, that inflation will more back up to 2 percent. And if economic conditions unfold in the way that most of my colleagues and I anticipate, we see it as appropriate to raise rates."

The Fed's statement noted that some sectors of the economy remain subpar. It said, for example, that while the job and housing markets had improved, business investment and exports remained "soft."

Business investment has been hurt by a plunge in energy prices, which have caused cutbacks at energy companies. And U.S. exports have been battered by the rising value of the dollar, which makes American goods more expensive overseas. □

Wall Street powerhouse poised to loan money to Main Street

KEN SWEET

AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Wall Street's most iconic investment bank has decided to open its doors to Main Street.

Goldman Sachs plans to start lending money directly to consumers and small businesses, according to an internal memo released to The Associated Press. It would be the first time in its history that the firm has done business with ordinary borrowers.

Goldman's move comes as new regulations have weighed on the firm's other businesses, such as trading. Also, the online lend-

ing industry — growing at sometimes double or triple its levels from a year ago — could provide healthier returns without the need for Goldman to build bank branches.

The Goldman name may be well known to Americans, but not its services, which have focused on raising money for larger businesses and providing financial advice to wealthy individuals. Unlike other household names, such as Bank of America or Wells Fargo, Goldman Sachs doesn't run a network of retail banks.

But a shift is underway at the investment bank. Gold-

man hired an executive from credit card company Discover Financial in May to lead the firm's entry into consumer and personal lending, according to the memo, which was circulated to employees last month.

Goldman did not lay out a timetable for when it would start lending.

The investment bank is likely to enter the consumer lending business by making unsecured, personal loans to borrowers with excellent credit, according to a person familiar with Goldman's plans. He spoke on condition of anonymity because details of the plans

are private. The firm may expand its offerings in the future.

Goldman will not open any retail bank branches, according to the source. Instead, it will emulate the nascent peer-to-peer lending industry. The firm will likely do its lending through a web page or through an app.

Peer-to-peer, or online lending, has attracted intense interest from Wall Street the last two years. Online-only companies such as Lending Club or Prosper typically match borrowers with potential investors, acting as middlemen only. But the number

of online companies who are lending directly to borrowers is growing. Interest rates on some loans are as high as 37 percent, making it attractive to investors willing to take on risk in exchange for high returns.

The companies at the forefront of peer-to-peer are on a tear. Lending Club, the biggest online lender, went public late last year. Prosper, the second biggest, made \$595 million in loans in the first three months of the year, up 200 percent from the year before. Goldman will likely not create a loan matching service in the mode on those two companies. □

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U.S. first lady Michelle Obama talks with Italian premier Matteo Renzi as she arrives at the Santa Maria delle Grazie church to see Leonardo's masterpiece "The Last Supper", after participating in a cooking demonstration at the James Beard American Restaurant with Italian and American middle school students in Milan, Italy, Wednesday, June 17, 2015. (AP Photo/Antonio Calanni)

First Lady Michelle Obama promotes key topic while in Milan: eating wisely

COLLEEN BARRY
Associated Press

MILAN (AP) — Michelle Obama took her campaign for healthy eating overseas on Wednesday, but let it slip that she still has work to do at home. The U.S. first lady prepared a lentil, barley and rice salad with middle school students at the James Beard American Restaurant in Milan, the second leg of a European tour that promotes some of her core initiatives, including eating well to fight obesity. Mrs. Obama emphasized to the 20 international students from the American School of Milan the importance of sitting down for a meal with the family as often as possible. She said that the president always takes time for dinner with the family, and that taking time to talk about the day's events over dinner

was one way to slow down and be conscious of eating. "And you probably eat less because you are not just shoveling. ... We don't shovel. Well, the president shovels sometimes," the first lady said to laughter. Hundreds of people lined the streets of Milan to catch a glimpse of her motorcade as it traveled from the restaurant near the Duomo in the heart of the city to the Santa Maria delle Grazie church. There, in keeping with the food theme, the first lady and her entourage viewed Da Vinci's "The Last Supper." Mrs. Obama's teenage daughters Malia and Sasha and her mother, Marian Robinson, joined her for the cultural outing. They were greeted outside by Italian Premier Matteo Renzi, his wife Agnes and 9-year-old daughter Ester. Mrs. Obama leaned over

to give the Renzis' daughter a hug, and Malia Obama waved to her and said "Nice to meet you." Ester Renzi laughed off a stumble as they walked toward the church to see the fresco, as the Obama daughters reached out to help her. Mrs. Obama is leading a presidential delegation to the Expo 2015 world's fair that tackles issues surrounding food and nutrition, dovetailing with her focus on fighting childhood obesity through her five-year-old "Let's Move" program. The first lady said the delegation, which includes star chef Mario Batali, urban farmer Will Allen and seven-time NBA All-Star Alonzo Mourning, would be meeting with people from other countries at Expo to discuss ways to tackle issues of health and nutrition. □

Greece, creditors dig in their heels on eve of big meeting

D. GATOPOULOS
R. CASERT

Associated Press

ATHENS, Greece (AP) — Greece and its creditors publicly blamed one another for an impasse in bailout talks Wednesday, on the eve of a eurozone finance ministers' meeting billed as key to their outcome. Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras lashed at rescue lenders for demanding pension cuts, and got support from thousands of Greeks who hit the streets in Athens to protest against any further austerity measures. "If Europe insists in this incomprehensible option — if its political leadership insists — then they must bear the cost of developments that will not be beneficial for anyone in Europe," he said after meeting in Athens with Austrian Chancellor Werner Faymann. Greek Finance Minister Yanis Varoufakis was defiant ahead of Thursday's meeting of finance chiefs from the eurozone. Asked during a visit to Paris on Wednesday whether the meeting could produce an agreement, Varoufakis said, "I do not believe so," and criticized the group for not making enough "preparations" to solve Greece's "incapacitating debt crisis." Greece needs to get more loans from its creditors before June 30, when its bailout program expires and it is scheduled to make a 1.6 billion euro (\$1.8 billion) debt repayment to the International Monetary Fund. European Union officials said they have already made major concessions, dropping a budget surplus target from 3 percent to 1 percent this year. Athens still needed to come up with a more realistic plan, EU Commission Vice President Valdis Dombrovskis said. "It is important that the Greek side actually not only communicates what they do not want to do, but also what they do want to do," he said. Markets continued to react badly to the news on the talks. The Athens Stock Exchange's main index sank another 3.2 percent, while the yield on Greece's two-year bond has soared above 30 percent, a sign investors are more worried about a default. Also Wednesday, Greece's central bank issued a dramatic warning in its annual report that, without a deal, the country would face "deep recession (and) a dramatic decline in income levels" that would drive it from the euro bloc and even the EU. Dombrovskis conceded the EU would consider "less favorable scenarios" when asked about a possible Greek exit, or "Grexit." Berenberg analyst Holger Schmieding said the Grexit risk has increased from 30 to 40 percent. "With every semi-deadline that Greece misses and with every rude word that the Greek radicals hurl at their creditors, the damage already done to Greece gets worse," he said in a note. "That, in turn, makes it more difficult for lenders to negotiate and ratify a new deal." □



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New NATO force trains in Poland to assure eastern flank

MONIKA SCISLOWSKA

Associated Press

WARSAW, Poland (AP) —

Warships. Tanks. Helicopters. Rapid reaction forces. Thousands of NATO troops are on the move this month in Poland and the Baltic states, practicing sea landings, air lifts and assaults. The massive maneuvers on NATO's eastern flank that began in early June include the first-ever training by the new, rapid reaction "spearhead" force, and are NATO's biggest defense boost since the Cold War.

Polish and Baltic state leaders have made it clear that they want to host large numbers of U.S. and NATO forces as a deterrent in the face of a resurgent Russia, and are welcoming the thousands of allied troops to their land and sea test ranges. Polish and Romanian leaders are even seeking more of a permanent allied military presence ahead of next year's NATO summit in Warsaw.

"We must know how to defend ourselves. It is our goal to assure a stable order," Polish Foreign Minister Grzegorz Schetyna said.

"In the face of new, real threats, the biggest enhancement since the Cold War of the alliance's collective defense is taking place," NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg told the Polish PAP news agency. He added that the spearhead exercise means to show that NATO is "ready and capable of facing every challenge and every threat."

East European countries that took pains to shed Moscow's dominance almost three decades ago

have been jittery ever since Russia annexed the Crimean Peninsula last year and began backing

their readiness this month to react and cooperate in the face of a potential crisis in the Allied Shield

War, but now they want to be sure that NATO will defend them in time of need — especially Poland, with

western Poland are from the Very High Readiness Joint Task Force that President Barack Obama and NATO leaders agreed upon at a NATO summit last fall.

Multi-national drills are also being held at Poland's northwestern range in Drawsko Pomorskie, along with greatly scaled-up annual BALTOPS exercises on the Baltic Sea.

BALTOPS this year includes a spectacular amphibious landing of 700 allied troops on a beach in Ustka in northern Poland. Its maneuvers involve some 60 ships from 17 NATO and partner nations and about 5,000 troops. But for the first time they are taking place without Russia, whose Kaliningrad military port is on the Baltic.

On Wednesday at BALTOPS, a Polish army amphibian sank while returning to its ship following the drill. Both crew members were rescued unscathed.

A multi-nation corps in Poland's Baltic port of Szczecin was doubling its staff to 400 this year to host the spearhead's command. □



A Polish army amphibian vehicle with Polish landing troops arrives on the beach during NATO BALTOPS 2015 naval exercises on a Baltic Sea beach in Ustka, Poland, Wednesday, June 17, 2015. It took part in the landing exercise and sank on its way back after dropping the troops on the beach. Both crew members were rescued unscathed. (AP Photo/Czarek Sokolowski)

separatists in the deadly conflict in eastern Ukraine. They have urged NATO to show force as a deterrent. In response, all kinds of NATO troops are testing

exercise in Poland, the Baltic states and in Romania. Those nations had significantly downscaled their armies and defense spending since the Cold

its memories of failed defense alliances at the start of World War II.

Over 2,000 of the troops taking part in the Noble Jump maneuvers in south-

France to create 11,000 places for asylum seekers

SYLVIE CORBET

PARIS (AP) —

France will create 11,000 more places in centers for asylum seekers and housing for refugees as part of a plan to help deal with the flow of thousands of migrants crossing the Mediterranean Sea, the country's interior minister said Wednesday.

Bernard Cazeneuve said the ambition of his plan is "to provide long-term solutions."

So far this year, around

100,000 migrants have entered Europe via Italy and Greece and riot police have forcibly removed dozens from the French-Italian border.

Cazeneuve said that France will open 4,000 more places in centers for asylum seekers by next year and another 5,500 places to house refugees who were granted legal status in France.

In addition, 1,500 new emergency places will be created as a tempo-

rary solution to house illegal migrants — especially in Paris and Calais, the French city on the English Channel where many migrants try to get across to Britain.

Last year, 64,800 migrants applied for asylum in France, while about 20,000 people were granted the legal status of refugee. The country currently has 25,000 beds in centers for asylum seekers.

The government also plans to create a police task

force to help dismantle smugglers networks, and to strengthen police controls in "strategic areas" such as the port of Calais, train stations and some roads and rail routes.

On Tuesday, European Union nations failed to reach an agreement over an emergency plan to share the burden of migrants crossing the Mediterranean Sea, many of them coming from troubled countries such as Syria, Iraq and Eritrea. □

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Islamic State-claimed Yemen bombings kill at least 4 people



Shiite rebels known as Houthis stand next to a wreckage of a vehicle at the site of a car bomb attack in Sanaa, Yemen, Wednesday, June 17, 2015. Two suicide bombers and another blast targeted the headquarters of Yemen's Shiite rebels in the capital, killing several people and wounding some 60 others, officials said. (AP Photo/Osamh Abdulrhman)

AHMED AL-HAJ
Associated Press

SANAA, Yemen (AP) — A series of Islamic State-claimed bombings in Yemen's rebel-controlled capital killed at least four people and wounded 60 Wednesday night amid the country's raging war. The online claim, if true,

would further complicate the ongoing conflict in Yemen that pits Shiite rebels known as Houthis and breakaway army units against an array of often rival forces, including local tribesmen, loyalists to the exiled President Abed Rabbo Mansour and al-Qaida militants. The bombings

came on the eve of the holy month of Ramadan, when radical Sunni militants around the region often escalate their attacks against Shiites, whom they view as heretics. Meanwhile Wednesday, airstrikes by a Saudi-led coalition backing Hadi struck a convoy of civilian ve-

hicles in the southern city of Aden, killing at least 31 people, authorities said.

In Sanaa, ambulances rushed through the streets in northern and central parts of the capital where the offices of the rebels, known as Houthis, are located. Pictures posted online from the area show huge orange flames rising from the areas, which also are home to Shiite mosques.

Security officials earlier said two suicide attackers drove car bombs into the gates of two buildings before detonating them. They said a third attack targeted a gathering of Houthis in Sanaa's Green Dome district.

The Health Ministry said "preliminary" reports indicate the blasts killed four people and wounded 60. The online statement claiming Yemen's Islamic State affiliate carried out the attack said its militants set off four car bombs out-

side two Shiite mosques, including in the Green Dome district, which is close to a security office used by the Houthis. The third car bomb hit the Houthi's main political office and a fourth targeted the home of a Houthi politician on the same street, it said.

The Islamic State group, which now controls a third of both Iraq and Syria in its self-declared caliphate, has had its Yemen affiliate claim attacks in the country before. In March, just before the Saudi-led coalition began its airstrike campaign, the affiliate, which refers to itself as the Sanaa province, claimed responsibility for a series of suicide bombings in Sanaa targeting Shiites that killed at least 137 people and wounded 345. American officials initially expressed skepticism that affiliate existed, as Yemen is also home to the world's most dangerous al-Qaida offshoot. □

Egypt pardons 165, many young people held over protests

BRIAN ROHAN
Associated Press

CAIRO (AP) — Egypt's president issued a decree pardoning 165 people on Wednesday, mostly youths convicted of breaking protest laws and misdemeanors ahead of the holy month of Ramadan. Many of the pardons issued by President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi were to university students, some jailed under a draconian law that heavily punishes demonstrations staged without police permits.

The move comes amid a state-orchestrated campaign to silence dissent, where courts dispense stiff sentences against both Islamists and secular-minded activists over charges mostly related to violence. Pardons during national and religious holidays are a tradition in Egypt. Rights groups say many of the people were sentenced over the past two years to around three to four years of imprisonment, and that some were arrested at home or on the side-

lines of protests in which they were not participating.

"It's not just the new protest law at work here, there's also a poor judiciary and lack of a credible investigative process, and some are being charged under another 100-year-old law limiting even small assemblies," said Mohammed Zaree of the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies. The protest measure became law after the el-Sissi-led military's ouster of Islamist President Moham-

med Morsi in July 2013, part of a sweeping crackdown against his supporters and other dissidents.

The clampdown, which left hundreds dead and thousands in prison, some without charges, has sparked a radical backlash and attacks against security forces. It also fanned the flames of a long-running insurgency in the restive northern part of the Sinai Peninsula.

At dawn in the area's main city of el-Arish, a bomb destroyed an armored police

vehicle, killing an officer and wounding four conscripts, a security official said.

No one immediately claimed the attack. Ansar Beit al-Maqdis, which refers to itself as the Sinai Province of the Islamic State group, regularly claims large-scale assaults in Sinai and last month released a video showing it killing several soldiers.

The official spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to brief journalists. □



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Bombs found at Boko Haram camp kill 63 in Nigeria

HARUNA UMAR
Associated Press

BAUCHI, Nigeria (AP) — A large sack of home-made bombs discovered at an abandoned Boko Haram camp exploded, killing 63 people, witnesses said Wednesday of a toll many times higher than in any recent attack in northeast Nigeria. The explosives were found by civilian self-defense fighters who carried the bag filled with metal objects to the nearby town of Monguno, said fighters including Haruna Bukar.

A curious crowd gathered to inspect the bag, which is why there were so many victims when it exploded, said Bukar, who witnessed the blast.

Many wounded people are being treated in the hospital, he said.

"It's very sad because most of those killed and injured are young men, with a small number of females," Bukar told The Associated Press by telephone.

Nigeria's homegrown extremists use these kinds of improvised explosive devices in suicide bombings and also to set ablaze homes and buildings of which tens of thousands have been torched.

At least 97 people have been killed in suicide bombings in northeast Nigeria since May 30, and 113 in the past month. The highest toll from a single bombing was 29 who died in twin suicide bombings on June 4 in the main market at Yola, the capital of northeastern Adamawa state. Many of the people carrying bombs are women and children. A bomb disposal expert has told the AP that most suicide bombs are set off remotely, meaning the carrier has no control. □

Hong Kong nears crucial election decision; defeat likely

KELVIN CHAN
Associated Press

HONG KONG (AP) — Hong Kong is bracing for a critical vote by lawmakers on Beijing-backed election reforms that sparked huge street protests last year, with the outcome likely to throw its political future into further uncertainty.

Lawmakers began a debate Wednesday on the government's plan to change the way the southern Chinese financial hub's top leader is chosen. The proposal faces likely defeat from the legislature's pro-democracy contingent, which has enough seats to veto it in a vote expected by the end of the week.

The government is offering direct elections for the first time starting in 2017 but wants all candidates to be screened by a 1,200-member panel of Beijing-friendly elites like the one that currently handpicks the leader.

Pro-democracy leaders say that means Beijing is breaking its promise to eventually grant genuine universal suffrage to the city, a special administrative region of China.

"It's a fake election, it doesn't increase our choices," pro-democracy

lawmaker Cyd Ho told senior government officials during the debate. "Instead, you have consolidated the small circle of

have vowed to reject it and brought mock ballot boxes marked with X's into the legislative chamber, signaling their intention to

ment would be forced to revert to the existing system to choose the next leader. Under that scenario, increasingly bitter divisions



Hong Kong pro-democracy lawmaker Albert Chan raises placard with Chinese words "Must have Civil Nomination" as he is against the election reform proposals during a legislature debate in Hong Kong, Wednesday, June 17, 2015.
(AP Photo/Vincent Yu)

the privileged and then you've tried to get Hong Kong people to give you a public mandate."

Hong Kong's government needs the support of at least two-thirds of the 70 lawmakers, or 47 people, to win approval. Lawmakers from pro-democracy parties, who hold 27 seats,

vote against the plan.

Chief Secretary Carrie Lam, the No. 2 government official, said in opening remarks that "having a vote in your hand is better than none." She said Hong Kong's democratic development faces a "stalemate" if the reform plan is defeated, and the govern-

in Hong Kong society that have emerged in the battle over democracy could remain unresolved.

Outside the legislature, pro-establishment demonstrators played Chinese Communist anthems while pro-democracy activists chanted "Definitely no to fake democracy." □

North Korea says hit by worst drought in 100 years

KIM TONG-HYUNG
Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — North Korea says it has been hit by its worst drought in a century, resulting in extensive damage to agriculture during its main planting season.

The official Korean Central News Agency said the drought has caused about 30 percent of its rice paddies to dry up. Young rice plants normally need to be

partially submerged in water during the early summer. "Recently in our country, there has been a severe drought with sudden extremely high temperatures and nearly no rain," Ri Yong Nam, a senior North Korean weather official, told The Associated Press on Wednesday. "Now the drought is causing a water shortage and great damage to agriculture, and we foresee this drought will continue for a

while." He said temperatures in May were 5-7 degrees Celsius (9-12 degrees Fahrenheit) higher than normal. Both North and South Korea have had unusually dry weather this year. South Korea's Unification Ministry said precipitation in North Korea was abnormally low in May, and food production could decline significantly if the shortage continues. However, a min-

istry official said he couldn't confirm North Korea's claim that it was experiencing its worst drought in a century. Jane Howard, a spokeswoman for the World Food Program in Rome, said North Korea has been experiencing water shortages since late last year because of low rain and snowfall. "The lack of water now could seriously affect the main crop season later this year," she said. □

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Deadline looms for legal status in Dominican Republic

EZEQUIEL LOPEZ

Associated Press

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic (AP) —

People waited anxiously in long lines throughout the Dominican Republic on Wednesday, eager to submit applications for legal residency before a midnight deadline and avoid possible deportation.

Many had been waiting since the night before, clutching documents they hoped would be sufficient to establish their legal status and allow them to stay in a country that, for some at least, is the only home they have ever known. Nearly all are from Haiti or of Haitian descent.

"I have nothing in Haiti," said Jaquenol Martinez, a sugar cane worker waiting to submit his application under a program to register migrant workers that began a year ago.

Martinez said he has been in the Dominican Republic since he came over with his parents as an 8-year-old in 1963. Under the "regularization" program, he should qualify for legal residency, but the Haitian government has yet to provide him with a birth certificate to establish his identity.

Others said they had simi-



Migrants, mostly Haitians, show officers their documents as they wait their turn to register for legal residency at the Interior Ministry in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. The head of the immigration agency in the Dominican Republic says the country is ready to resume deporting non-citizens without legal residency after putting the practice on hold for a year.

(AP Photo/Tatiana Fernandez)

lar difficulties getting identification from the Haitian Embassy or have been unable to get documents from employers in the Dominican Republic, where many work under informal arrangements in construction, agriculture or as gardeners and maids.

"On my own, I haven't been able to resolve anything," said Delinua Jean-Francois, who said he had

been harvesting sugar cane in the country since 1984. The immigration registration program, which was supposed to start in 2004 but was delayed by legal challenges, began last June. Non-citizens must show they have been in the country since before October 2011 to qualify for legal residency.

The law is aimed at regulating the historic flow of

migrants from impoverished Haiti to the relatively wealthier Dominican Republic. The government pushed it forward last year amid international criticism of a Supreme Court decision that concluded that people born in the country to non-citizens did not qualify for citizenship under the Constitution, rendering thousands effectively stateless. □

Caribbean court rejects appeal by ex-officer in Grenada

CARLISLE BAPTISTE

Associated Press

ROSEAU, Dominica (AP) —

A Caribbean appeals court this week dismissed an attempt to become a lawyer by one of 17 men convicted of murder in a bloody 1983 coup in Grenada that triggered a U.S. invasion.

The Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court rejected the appeal by former army officer Ewart Layne, who

hoped to gain admittance to Grenada's legal bar.

In 2013, a Grenadian judge ruled that Layne must be blocked from the legal profession because of his coup conviction.

In her decision, Justice Margaret Price-Findlay said Layne's admittance to the island's legal bar would "send an inconsistent message to members of the public and to the profession as a whole."

On Monday, the Caribbean court rejected Layne's appeal of that decision, saying it found "no unfairness" in the judge's ruling. The regional court is currently hearing cases on the island of Dominica.

Layne's lawyers said they will appeal to the Britain-based Privy Council, the court of last resort for a number of Caribbean countries.

Layne was part of the "Gre-

nada 17," the group arrested for the killings of Prime Minister Maurice Bishop, four Cabinet ministers and six supporters on Oct. 19, 1983.

Grenada became a flash point in the Cold War after Bishop led a bloodless coup in 1979 and installed a Marxist government. Bishop was killed by a firing squad after a radical faction staged a coup four years later. □

In The CARIBBEAN Jamaica: Mobs hurl rocks, torch a bus at school

KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP) —

Jamaican officials say a mob of adults descended on a high school hurling rocks and setting a minibus on fire a day after one of its students allegedly killed a classmate away from the campus. Police rushed to Maldon High School in St. James parish to chase off the attackers Wednesday and there are no immediate reports of any significant injuries. The attack occurred a day after a ninth grade student was fatally stabbed by a classmate. The dead boy has been identified as 15-year-old Romaro Salmon. Authorities say the angry mob came from the community where the slain boy was from.

Dominican's AG hoping Vatican official charged

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic (AP) —

The attorney general of the Dominican Republic says he hopes the Vatican's former ambassador to the Caribbean nation is convicted of charges that he sexually abused young boys. The Holy See announced this week that Jozef Wesolowski has been indicted on charges of sexually abusing Dominican boys and having child pornography on his computer. Wesolowski will stand trial next month in a Vatican criminal court, the first time such a high-ranking Vatican official has been tried on sex abuse charges. On Tuesday, Dominican Attorney General Francisco Dominguez Brito said the purported victims need justice. □



At Renaissance Aruba Resort & Casino: 'Global Day of Discovery' Celebrated With a City Tour for Guests



ORANJESTAD - Thursday June 11th Renaissance Aruba Resort & Casino celebrated 'Global Day of Discovery' with a special activity for its guests. On this particular day 160 Renaissance Hotels around the world (in more than 40 countries) dedicate a day to inspire discovery through exclusive events on and off property. This year the resort organized 'Flamingle' which is a 'scavenger hunt' that gave the guests the opportunity to win great prizes by being part of an educational tour in Oranjestad. "The idea was to discover our downtown and discover the Aruban culture and history", this according to Zugheila Lindeborgh of the Renaissance Aruba Resort.

The guests started at Wilhelmina Park and while walking and following instructions they also received information about Aruban history. Amongst the visited location were; Willem III Tower, Fort Zoutman and the Archeological Museum. Besides this the guests also received explanation about all they encountered along the route including buildings, statues and plazas. In order to test their knowledge afterwards the guests had to fill in questionnaires. During the 'discovery tour' the guests were accompanied by public figure Caribbean King Mr. Christian Bendek and Aruban Social Media Queen Mrs. Julie Julie. It was fascinating to see their enthusiasm. After the tour the guests enjoyed a 'Happy Hour' and some delicious 'Flamingle' themed cocktails at Renaissance Blue Bar. Flamingo-tails, Flocktails and Pinkartas cocktails were great favorites!

A special thanks to Rietveld



Academy of Arts, Mr. Glen Gordijn and Mrs. Glenda Heyliger for their guidance during the arts and craft activity. Also thanks to Pastechi House and Cerbes Balashi for their contribution to 'Global Day of Discovery'. The idea is to engage the guests in activities; for that

reason Renaissance Aruba Resort is already preparing to celebrate the International Flamingo Day on June 23rd, 2015.

In the pictures an impression of 'Flamingle' organized by Renaissance Aruba Resort & Casino on 'Global Day of Discovery'. □





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IT'S ALL ABOUT MEN...

Fashionable Father's Day Shopping showcased at Paseo Herencia Mall



PALM BEACH - This past weekend families were out and about looking through stores for Father's Day gifts suited to today's modern and fashion-conscious daddies. Paseo Herencia Shopping Mall in Palm Beach not only has a wealth of shops with unique items, the management even provided some excellent ideas with a runway focused solely on the great collections for men to be found.

Two new shops just opened at Paseo Herencia, a Nike signature store and Coast 98, featuring great coordinated beach and sport fashion for dads and their progeny. Who says only mothers and daughters get to dress alike? The masculine models of Coast 98 trotted the runway in the Plaza Padu in matching outfits with their adorable sons and daughters, proving that fashion is a family affair for every gender!



Nike opened the evening by demonstrating that fitness-conscious fathers can be stylish from head to toe while working out. They have a brand new collection of running and exercise gear for the body and the feet for all sizes and shapes. Whether working out or

playing with their children at the beach, one outdoor wardrobe item that is a must on Aruba is sunglasses! Kok Optica provided a wonderful collection of the latest styles that would please any discerning dad. Most men dream of owning a Ferrari or Porsche, and now you can make it come true with their signature line of designer sunglasses to be found only at Kok Optica. They may not own a quarter million dollar car, but they can sure look great while fantasizing about having one! They also have a large collection of Dragon Alliance floatable sunglasses, which are perfect for playing in Aruba's azure waters. Everyone is happy when daddy smells great! Maggy's featured the Gentlemen's Only by Givenchy, which has three different fragrance lines to suit all fathers. The store has a complete collection of the

latest and classic men's colognes and aftershaves, many in special gift collections. Aside from enjoying an entertaining show by virtuoso violinist Angela Flores,

the audience came away with a wealth of great gift ideas for dad after a typical night of fun and fashion at Paseo Herencia Shopping Mall. □



Manchebo Resort & Spa celebrating Health Week



EAGLE BEACH – The health and wellness oriented Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa celebrated their Employee's Health Week the second week of June. During this week the resort together with their employees focused on a healthy lifestyle.

The week started off with guest speaker Iraida Thijsen from Ibisa Aruba. Mrs. Thijsen presentation to the employees outlined the importance of a healthy and balanced lifestyle.

The 'Wit Gele Kruis' was on property to test all employees for high blood pressure, BMI and eyes. Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa also organized walkathons as a group excursion and Jacky van Putten was invited to talk about the importance of frequent exercising for a balanced & healthy life. The cafeteria lunch for employees offered many healthy options including couscous, quinoa and spinach salads. Fruit infused water is located throughout the property



to keep employees as well as guests hydrated during the day. All employees received a water pitcher

with recipes to make their own fruit infused water at home.

Manchebo provides a variety of activities to keep the body moving and the mind calm. Yoga and Pilates classes are offered daily and health and wellness retreats fill the calendar. Yoga, fitness, health and wellness experts are traveling from around the world to Manchebo offering its guests a unique and healthy vacation option.

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 or
Dadies Shrimp Diablo "Hot"
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St. Louis Cardinals' Mark Reynolds follows through on a two-run single during the third inning of a baseball game against the Minnesota Twins Tuesday, June 16, 2015, in St. Louis.

Associated Press

NL Capsules Cardinals play through rain, beat Twins 3-2 again

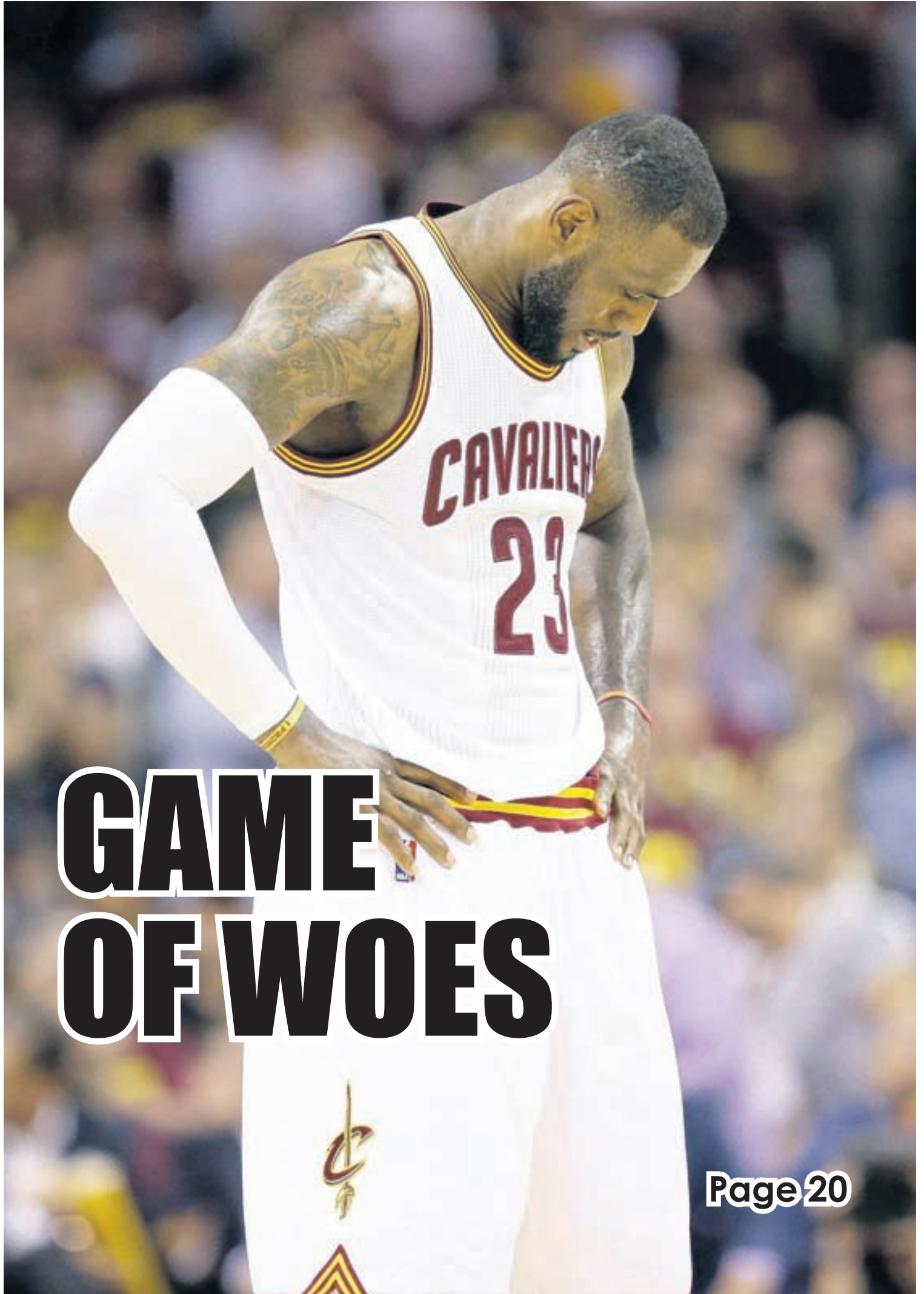
The Associated Press

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Hours after a federal investigation into possible computer hacking by the Cardinals became public, St. Louis extended its winning streak to five by beating the Minnesota Twins 3-2 behind Michael Wacha's pitching and Mark Reynolds' two-run single.

Before the game, manager Mike Matheny said he was in the weight room when he first learned of the investigation into whether the Cardinals had hacked Houston's computer database. The Cardinals then completed a soggy homestand in which three games were delayed and another against Kansas City was postponed until July 23.

St. Louis is 43-22 overall and 26-7 at home, both tops in the major leagues, and matched a franchise best by reaching 43 wins in 64 games. Minnesota has lost seven of eight.

Continued on Page 22



GAME OF WOES

Page 20

Cleveland Cavaliers forward LeBron James (23) hangs his head during the second half of Game 6 of basketball's NBA Finals against the Golden State Warriors in Cleveland, Tuesday, June 16, 2015.

Associated Press

Tiger's story is getting old, yet he keeps repeating it

TIM DAHLBERG

AP Sports Columnist

UNIVERSITY PLACE, Wash-

ington (AP) — The ques-
tions come less often,
largely because the story is
getting old.

Or maybe it's just that no
one really believes any-
more, even Tiger Woods
himself.

The downfall of the great-
est player of his time can
be measured in any num-
ber of ways, whether it's his
current ranking of 195th in
the world or the 85 Woods
shot just a few weeks ago
in a Memorial tournament
he has won five times.

One of the most tell-
ing, though, may have
come on Tuesday from
the youngest player in the
U.S. Open, a 15-year-old
from Texas named Cole
Hammer, who said his first
memory of watching golf
on television was watching
Woods pump his fist after
forcing a playoff he would
eventually win at Torrey
Pines.

It's been seven long years
since Woods won that
Open, and now even
the bookies in Las Vegas
can't make the odds long



Tiger Woods talks speaks to the media during a news conference for the U.S. Open golf tournament at Chambers Bay on Tuesday, June 16, 2015 in University Place, Wash.

Associated Press

enough on his chances of
winning this one. He's a
50-1 pick, and the bettors
who once put money on
him to win every tourna-
ment now look elsewhere

to make their money.
That's not going to stop Fox
from showing his every shot
on Thursday in a primetime
telecast for which the net-
work paid big money at a

time Woods was still rele-
vant. Woods still moves the
popularity needle, even if
he no longer moves with
the confidence of a player
who once expected to win
every time he teed it up.
What has changed is we
watch him not to win, but
to see when he crash-
es. And on a quirky golf
course that features trains
rumbling through on a reg-
ular basis, Woods is a train
wreck waiting to happen.
He talked on Tuesday
about making progress,
said he was getting his
game into shape to win
the 15th major of his car-
eer. He reminded report-
ers that he's won three U.S.
Opens, as if that should be
enough to automatically
elevate him to contend-
er status. But progress for
Woods these days is no lon-
ger measured by getting
closer to where he once
was. It's trying to get far-
ther away from where he is
— a player who shockingly
still can't figure out how to
do the fundamental things
on the golf course he used
to take for granted.

Yes, Woods came back to
make the cut at the Mas-
ters after embarrassing
himself with wild play and

amateurish chips in his first
two tournaments of the
season. But, no, he wasn't
in contention on Sunday,
as he claimed. Woods was
10 shots behind with as
much chance of catch-
ing Jordan Spieth as the
young Hammer has of win-
ning here at Chambers
Bay.

Even more startling is that
since returning from a lay-
off to fix his chipping woes,
Woods has finished a col-
lective 57 shots behind the
winner in the three tourna-
ments he has played.

"When you look at how
I played at Phoenix and
Torrey (Pines), I'm sure
most people thought I was
probably crazy to think I
could probably win the
Masters," Woods said. "But
I really felt like I could. I had
a chance, I just didn't get
it done."

So Woods remains in den-
ial, which may be the
only way he can bring
himself to play anymore.
Young players with stead-
ier nerves have passed him
by, but don't expect him
to acknowledge it.

He's approaching his 40th
birthday in December, a
time in every athlete's life
where things are not near-
ly as easy as they once
were. While Woods insists
his problems are all due
to swing changes, others
aren't so sure. He split with
girlfriend Lindsey Vonn
after the Masters, and is
helping raise two kids with
his ex-wife. Clearly, his life
is more complicated than
it was when Woods was
a young bachelor in his
prime. But mostly he suf-
fers from comparisons with
what he's done before.
And Woods was so great
during a 12-year span that
he can never meet those
expectations again.

"We're just waiting for him
to come back and win
those tournaments like it
was nothing, hunt down
people like he was playing
a Wednesday tournament
at the country club," Ja-
son Day said. "But will we
see it? I'm not sure."

Not this week, we won't.
And the way Woods con-
tinues to search for his
game, maybe not ever. □

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Wawrinka falls in Queen's 2nd round to familiar nemesis

LONDON (AP) — French Open champion Stan Wawrinka's eight-match winning streak ended at Queen's Club on Wednesday when Kevin Anderson edged him 7-6 (4), 7-6 (11). It was the South African's fourth successive win over Wawrinka.

Anderson pressured the second seed from the start, holding a break point in the opening game. Although Wawrinka stood firm and held two set points at 6-5, it was Anderson who took the tiebreaker.

In the second set, Wawrinka saved a break point when down 3-2, but Anderson always held an advantage in the tiebreaker. In a tense finale, Wawrinka saved five match points, and held three set points before Anderson finally closed out the second-round match with his 22nd ace.

"I felt a very good serving performance by me to-

day," said Anderson, who inflicted Wawrinka's first defeat since he lifted the French Open trophy. Anderson was also the first player to defeat Wawrinka after he won his previous major at the 2014 Australian Open.

"Just kept patient throughout," he added. "I definitely tried to come in quite a bit especially off my serves, trying to take away his block return a little bit."

Second-seeded Wawrinka was satisfied with his performance against an in-form opponent.

"I think singles was in general good level," said Wawrinka, who also played doubles on Wednesday. "I did one big mistake on the set point, but that's it. In general I think he was playing really well. He was going for his shots and going for the line without really a plan. Just going and putting a lot of pressure."

Third seeded Canadian Milos Raonic, playing his first event since a short layoff to undergo minor surgery to correct a pinched nerve in his right foot, also reached the quarter-finals with a 6-4, 6-7 (5), 6-1 victory over Frenchman Richard Gasquet.

Raonic took the first set by breaking in the opening game and fighting off five break points to hold for 2-0. After Gasquet leveled by winning the second set in a tiebreaker Raonic dominated the decider, racing to a 4-0 lead and claiming 71 percent of the points.

Seventh-seeded Gilles Simon of France resisted early pressure in each set to defeat Thanasi Kokkinakis of Australia 6-4, 6-2.

Simon lost the first nine points but won the next four games to gain an advantage in the opening set, and after fighting off a break point when down



Switzerland's Stan Wawrinka returns a shot to South Africa's Kevin Anderson, during their men's singles tennis match of the Queen's tennis championship, in London, Wednesday, June 17, 2015.

Associated Press

2-1 in the second, he broke Kokkinakis to lead 3-2. A running backhand winner down the line secured him a second break for 5-2.

Alexandr Dolgoplov

failed to follow up his first round upset of Rafael Nadal when the Ukrainian was defeated 6-3, 7-6 (4) by Spaniard Guillermo Garcia-Lopez. □

LeBron can't deliver title to Cleveland despite great effort

BRIAN MAHONEY

AP Basketball Writer

CLEVELAND (AP) — LeBron James pulled off his sunglasses, and there was no hiding the hurt in his eyes. He had given everything he had, the best player turning into a better teammate, and it wasn't enough.

"If I could have gave more, I would have done it, but I gave everything I had," he said Tuesday after Cleveland's 105-97 loss to Golden State in Game 6 of the NBA Finals.

And that's more than just points, rebounds and assists. Throughout the year had proven what it meant not just to be the star but to be the leader, even more during the NBA Finals.

"What's evident to everyone is what a spectacular basketball player that LeBron is. But he has become a great leader of his team," coach David Blatt said. "He's become a guy that has evolved in terms of his role within the team and within the whole concept of what it is that we want to be about."

James believed he could will Cleveland to a championship, with a confidence that turned almost defiance. Even as the Golden State Warriors had asserted themselves as the series went on, James said he didn't doubt the Cavaliers could win until the clock reached zero.

James finished with 32 points, 18 rebounds and nine assists in another tremendous individual effort, but his outmanned Cavaliers lost the final three games.

His fourth loss in six NBA Finals trips left him wondering briefly if he'd be better off just missing the playoffs entirely, so it would hurt less.

"I didn't win a championship," he said, "but I've done a lot of good things in this first year back and hopefully I can continue it."

He couldn't end Cleveland pro sports' lengthy title drought, a 51-year stretch that's been so tough even some local fans believe in



Cleveland Cavaliers forward LeBron James (23) is defended by Golden State Warriors guard Andre Iguodala (9) during the first half of Game 6 of basketball's NBA Finals in Cleveland, Tuesday, June 16, 2015.

Associated Press

the so-called Cleveland Curse.

But they also believe in James, the 30-year-old Northeast Ohio son who came home from Miami last summer and brought life back to the Cavaliers franchise.

He couldn't bring them their first title, not with what he had left around him in these NBA Finals. Kevin Love had been lost to a dislocated left shoulder in the first round. Then Kyrie Irving went down with a fractured left kneecap in Game 1 of this series.

James still willed the Cavaliers to a 2-1 lead and was so good there was even

talk that he could join Jerry West as the only NBA Finals MVPs from losing teams.

Cavaliers fans sure believed he should have, the ones who remained to watch the award celebration booing loudly when Golden State's Andre Iguodala was announced as the winner.

His departure for Miami in 2010 had turned the locals against him, led them to burn his jerseys in the streets. There was anger, hurt, even hatred in their voices when they jeered him when he came back for the first time with the Heat.

He became a two-time

champion in Miami, but more importantly grew up, learned what it would take to lead a team. He returned more mature than when he left, announcing his decision with a thoughtful essay, a sharp contrast to his widely criticized TV special in 2010.

He became a more assertive leader. He was already the best player.

It was a little surprising to hear him call himself that after Game 5, when he said he was still confident because he was the best player in the world. He usually leaves talking about his greatness to others.

But having belief is one

thing; having sufficient help is another.

James didn't, and the effort in trying to carry a team was too much even for one of sports' most gifted athletes. He stood with his hands on his hips often in the second half, trying desperately to catch his breath while playing nearly 47 minutes.

"It's never a success if you go out losing," James said. "We put ourselves back where this franchise needs to be, being a contender. But we've still got a lot of work to do." □

Table tennis 'grandmother', 51, sparkles at European Games

JAMES ELLINGWORTH

Associated Press

BAKU, Azerbaijan (AP)

— After easily beating a woman 21 years her junior, Ni Xialian bobs a quick bow to her supporters, kisses her husband and coach Tommy Danielsson and heads for the changing room.

Just another day at the office for the 51-year-old Chinese-born Luxembourger who is becoming an unlikely star of the inaugural European Games in Baku. Ni has yet to drop a game in the women's singles table tennis as she chases a medal and a place at next year's Olympics.

Danielsson said she is like a "grandmother" to the other players on tour and Ni laughed. "I want the children to improve but in a healthy way," she said. "If anybody is coming to me to ask anything — life or money or children or table tennis, everything — I'm willing to help."

Her first-round match at the European Games took the narrative of youth against experience to the extreme. Ni was more than three times the age of her opponent, 15-year-old Belgian Lisa Lung, but still cruised to victory.

Her second-round opponent on Wednesday, 30-year-old Hungarian Georgina Pot. □

AL Capsules

Orioles bang 8 HRs in 19-3 rout of Phillies



Philadelphia Phillies starting pitcher Jerome Williams reacts after colliding with Baltimore Orioles' Ryan Flaherty at home plate as Flaherty scored on a wild pitch in the first inning of an interleague baseball game, Tuesday, June 16, 2015, in Baltimore.

The Associated Press

BALTIMORE (AP) — Manny Machado and newcomer Chris Parmelee each hit two of an Orioles-record eight home runs, and Baltimore breezed past woeful Philadelphia for its eighth win in nine games.

The defeat sealed the Phillies' first winless road trip of at least eight games since an 0-9 run in August 1883, their inaugural season. Philadelphia hosts the Orioles on Wednesday after going 0-8 in Cincinnati, Pittsburgh and Baltimore.

The eight home runs were the most by the Orioles since their move from St. Louis in 1954. They hit seven in a game three times previously, the last on Sept. 26, 2012, against Toronto.

Ryan Flaherty set the record with a solo shot in the eighth inning off Phillies right fielder Jeff Francoeur, who retired all three batters in the seventh after Baltimore scored in each of the first six innings.

ANGELS 4, DIAMONDBACKS 1

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP) — Albert Pujols drove in the tying and go-ahead runs in the sixth inning with his 539th career homer, David Freese also hit a two-run shot and Garrett Richards pitched seven innings of four-hit ball to help Los Angeles beat Arizona.

Richards (7-4) yielded an unearned run and three walks, struck out four and retired his final 11 batters after a shaky start as the Angels snapped Arizona's

four-game winning streak.

The right-hander, coming off a 6-2 road victory against Tampa Bay in which he allowed two runs over seven innings, has won back-to-back starts for the first time since April 24-30 against Texas and Oakland. Jeremy Hellickson (4-4) allowed two runs and four hits in six innings, striking out six and walking one for Arizona.

RANGERS 3, DODGERS 2
ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Robinson Chirinos hit a game-ending home run leading off the bottom of the ninth inning and Texas beat NL West-leading Los Angeles.

Chirinos hit a 1-1 pitch from Josh Ravin (2-1) over the left-center field wall, his sixth homer of the season.

The Dodgers had gotten even in the top of the ninth when Justin Turner hit a two-run homer off rookie starter Chi Chi Gonzalez, who was so close to his second complete game and first shut-out in only his fourth career start.

Shawn Tolleson (2-1), who had been proclaimed the Texas closer earlier in the day by manager Jeff Banister, gave up a pair of two-out singles after taking over before Jimmy Rollins' inning-ending flyout.

Texas won both home games against the Dodgers, though the teams play again Wednesday and Thursday in Los Angeles.

NATIONALS 16, RAYS 4
ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP) — Wilson Ramos homered

twice off position players, Bryce Harper and Clint Robinson also went deep, and Washington routed Tampa Bay. With the game out of reach, Rays manager Kevin Cash used infielders Jake Elmore and Nick Franklin to pitch the final two innings. Ramos hit a solo shot against Elmore in the eighth and added a two-run drive off Franklin in the ninth to finish with four RBIs.

Harper hit his 22nd homer this season, a long solo shot to center off C.J. Riefenhauser during a four-run fifth that gave Washington a 10-0 lead. The ball landed on protective netting near a fish tank that is home to a group of cownose rays.

Robinson had a leadoff homer and added an RBI double off Alex Colome during a six-run second inning that put the Nationals up 6-0.

ASTROS 8, ROCKIES 5
HOUSTON (AP) — Luis Valbuena homered twice and drove in four runs, and Houston beat Colorado. Hank Conger hit a solo homer for the Astros, who lead the major leagues with 91 home runs. Houston is 25-0 this year when it has multihomer games.

Valbuena hit a solo homer in the second off Chris Rusin (2-2) and added a three-run drive in a five-run third that increased his team-leading home run total to 16.

Will Harris (3-0) pitched 1 1/3 scoreless innings in relief of rookie Vince Velasquez, who gave up five runs and seven hits in 4 2-3 innings. Luke Gregerson threw a perfect ninth for his 17th save in 19 chances.

Rusin (2-2) wasted a 3-1 lead and gave up seven runs and nine hits in four innings.

REDS 5, TIGERS 2
DETROIT (AP) — Todd Frazier homered twice and Jay Bruce added a solo shot to lift Cincinnati to a victory over Detroit.

The Reds had totaled only four runs in a three-game losing streak, and didn't get on the board until the fifth against Detroit, but Michael

Lorenzen and the Reds' bullpen made the homers stand up.

Lorenzen (2-2) allowed two runs — one earned — and six hits with three walks in six innings, only striking out one. Three relievers finished, with Aroldis Chapman striking out the side in the ninth — the last on a 103-mph fastball — for his 14th save. Kyle Ryan (1-1) took his first

major-league loss, giving up four runs in 6 1/3 innings. Ryan only surrendered five hits, but three were homers. **RED SOX 9, BRAVES 4**

BOSTON (AP) — Brock Holt became the first Boston player to hit for the cycle since 1996 and the Red Sox slugged their way out of a seven-game losing streak with a victory over Atlanta.



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FRI 4:15 | 6:25 | 8:35 | 10:45
SAT 2:05 | 4:15 | 6:25 | 8:35 | 10:45
SUN & HOL 2:05 | 4:15 | 6:25 | 8:35
2D VERSION
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FRI 5:20 | 7:30 | 9:40
SAT 3:10 | 5:20 | 7:30 | 9:40
SUN & HOL 3:10 | 5:20 | 7:30

CHRIS PRATT | TY SIMPKINS



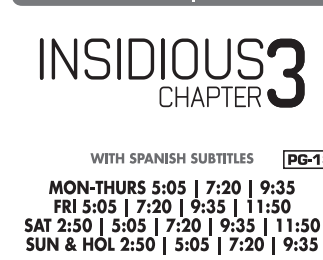
JURASSIC WORLD
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES
3D VERSION
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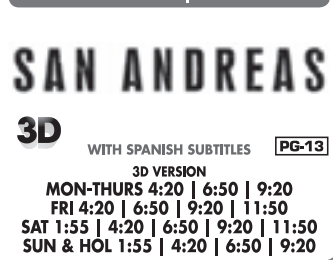


SPY
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DERMOT MULRONEY | STEFANIE SCOTT



DWAYNE JOHNSON | CARLA GUGINO



INSIDIOUS 3
CHAPTER 3
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SUN & HOL 2:50 | 5:05 | 7:20 | 9:35

SAN ANDREAS
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Wambach's goal gives US a 1-0 win over Nigeria

ANNE M. PETERSON

AP Sports Writer

VANCOUVER, British Columbia (AP) — Abby Wambach is used to scoring with her head. She's not sure how she got her latest goal.

"I think it was my shin guard, to be quite honest," she said. "I'm not 100 percent sure."

Doesn't really matter to Wambach. What does is that she scored, pulling the U.S. national team to a 1-0 victory over Nigeria and into a first-place finish in its group at the Women's World Cup.

That sends the United States to Edmonton, Alberta, for the opening match of the knockout stage against an undetermined opponent.

It was Wambach's first goal in Canada and her 14th overall in a World Cup, pulling her even with Birgit Prinz for second on the all-time list behind Brazil's Marta, who has 15.



Nigeria goalkeeper Precious Dede reacts to being scored on by Abby Wambach during the first half of a FIFA Women's World Cup soccer match, Tuesday, June 16, 2015 in Vancouver, New Brunswick, Canada.
Associated Press

"Getting that goal right before the half was big for us," she said. "Not taking too many injuries is also positive, and going out first in our group was absolutely what we set out to do."

Wambach came off the bench for the United States in the team's last match against Sweden. Tuesday,

she started up top with Alex Morgan, who was making her first World Cup start in Canada after working her way back from a bone bruise in her left knee.

The United States, ranked second in the world behind Germany, has two World Cup titles, but hasn't won since 1999. Four years ago

in Germany, the U.S. advanced to the final but fell to Japan on penalty kicks. Nigeria, which has won seven of nine African championships, has been to every World Cup since it started for the women in 1991. The Super Falcons were eliminated after the loss to the United States af-

ter playing to a 3-all draw with Sweden in the opener and falling 2-0 to Australia. Afterward, coach Nigeria coach Edwin Okon would not shake the hand of U.S. coach Jill Ellis.

"We created some good chances, but we didn't take the chances," Okon said about his team's performance. "It is a lesson."

The U.S. opened Group D with a 3-1 victory over No. 10 Australia, before playing to a 0-0 draw with No. 5 Sweden.

Morgan hadn't started a match since April. The speedy 25-year-old played 12 minutes as a sub in the draw with Sweden.

Wambach also came in as a sub in the match against Sweden last Friday. It was the first time she had played off the bench at a World Cup since her first in 2003. The 35-year-old veteran, who didn't score in the first two U.S. group stage matches, had never gone without a goal in the opening round in her four overall World Cup appearances. Wambach said it was important to get a start with Morgan as the team heads to the next round.

"Huge to get Alex minutes, not just for us to get the minutes together, but for her to get minutes in the World Cup, and for her to get her legs under her," Wambach said. "Because we need Alex Morgan."

Julie Johnston had the best chance for the United States early, but her strike in the eighth minute was ruled offside. Minutes later, U.S. goalkeeper Hope Solo dove to stop Nigeria forward Asisat Oshoala's attempt. Nigerian goalkeeper Precious Dede had to punch Megan Rapinoe's long 25-foot blast in the 17th minute. Johnston battled to catch Oshoala on a fast break, sliding to deflect the ball as Solo charged.

Wambach finally put the United States ahead just before the end of the half when she rushed in on a corner kick from Megan Rapinoe and volleyed the ball into the goal at the far post. □

NL Capsules

Continued from Page 17

ATHLETICS 6, PADRES 5

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Eric Sogard singled in the go-ahead in the top of the ninth off closer Craig Kimbrel, lifting Oakland to a win over San Diego and spoiling the debut of interim manager Pat Murphy. Kimbrel (1-2) issued a two-out walk to Billy Burns, who stole second and scored on Sogard's ground ball single to center.

The game was played on the one-year anniversary of the death of longtime Padre and Hall of Famer Tony Gwynn. The Padres played a brief video tribute to the eight-time NL batting champion before the game.

Murphy, named interim manager before the game, replaced Bud Black who was fired on Monday. San Diego has lost both games since Black's firing, including Monday night's 9-1 loss to Oakland under acting manager Dave Roberts.

GIANTS 6, MARINERS 2



New York Mets center fielder Juan Lagares leaps but can't get to Jose Bautista's sixth-inning triple in a baseball game in New York, Tuesday, June 16, 2015.
Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Matt Duffy homered and drove in three runs to help San Francisco snap a nine-game home losing streak by beating Seattle.

Casey McGehee added a two-run double and Angel Pagan hit an RBI single as the Giants snapped their longest home skid since an 11-gamer at New York's Polo Grounds in 1940. Tim Lincecum (7-3) allowed two runs and five hits in 5 2/3 innings to get the win in his second start against his hometown team.

Brad Miller homered and drove in two runs for the Mariners, who split the

two-game series in San Francisco and finished 4-4 on an eight-game road trip.

San Francisco had scored just 17 runs during the home skid and had not homered in five straight games here before Duffy went deep in the second inning against J.A. Happ (3-3).

ROYALS 7, BREWERS 2

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Chris Young became the first Royals pitcher to drive in three runs in a game since 1972 and worked seven innings of five-hit ball, leading Kansas City to a victory over Milwaukee. □

Young had a two-run single in the fourth inning and an RBI single in the fifth for the Royals, who have won six of eight after a 2-9 skid. He is the sixth Kansas City pitcher with at least three RBIs and the first since Steve Busby.

Young (6-2) struck out three without any walks to improve to 12-2 in inter-league starts in his career. Lorenzo Cain and Mike Moustakas each homered for Kansas City.

Matt Garza (4-8) allowed six runs and a career-high 13 hits in 6 2-3 innings. He is 1-5 at home this year.

Milwaukee is 11-24 at Miller Park after losing its fourth game in a row.

METS 3, BLUE JAYS 2

NEW YORK (AP) — Matt Harvey returned to form with seven shutout innings and an RBI double, leading New York to a victory over Toronto. Bobby Parnell earned a five-out save in his third outing since Tommy John surgery, and the NL East leaders held on without their top late relievers thanks in part to a major baserunning blunder by the Blue Jays. □



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Tech Tips: Stay safe by reducing reliance on passwords

ANICK JESDANUN

AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — So many online accounts, so many passwords. No wonder it's tempting to turn to apps and services that promise to keep track of your passwords.

But these password managers are like treasure chests for hackers. If your master password is compromised, all your accounts potentially go with it.

One such service, LastPass, says it has detected "suspicious activity." Although it says it found no evidence that individual passwords or user accounts were breached, it's advising users to change their LastPass master password.

I advise users instead to rely less on just passwords. Here are some tips:

ALL ACCOUNTS AREN'T EQUAL

Instead of having to remember dozens of complex passwords, maybe you need to remember only a half-dozen.

Focus on accounts that are really important:

— Bank accounts, of course, along with shopping services with your credit card information stored.

— Don't forget email. Who would want your mundane chatter? Well, email accounts are important because they are gateways for resetting passwords for other services, such as your Amazon account to go on a shopping spree.

— As for social-media accounts and discussion forums, maybe there are some you value more than others. You might not care if someone posts on your behalf to a discussion board offering tech support. But if it's a forum you value, and you've established a repu-

tation under that identity, you might want to prioritize that, too.

For these highly sensitive ones, choose a unique password and remember it. Write it down by hand and keep it in a safe place. If you must store it electronically, use password-protected files kept on your device — not online. And don't name that file "password." Use something boring, like "chores."

LOWER PRIORITY

For the rest of your accounts, it's not as bad to turn to a password manager, but it might not be necessary.

Web browsers from Apple and Google have built-in mechanisms for storing frequently used passwords. You even have options to sync those online if you use multiple devices.

Google's new Smart Lock feature extends that to Android apps, too, so you're not limited to Web browsing.

Many services also let you sign in with your Facebook or other ID instead of generating new passwords each time. Make sure the ID service offers two-step verification, as I'll explain later. Turn that on.

PHONES AND FINGERPRINTS

If you haven't protected your phone with a passcode, tsk tsk! Someone can easily swipe your phone and get to your email account to unlock all sorts of other accounts.

Fortunately, the latest iPhones and Samsung Galaxy phones have fingerprint IDs that make it easier to unlock phones. Instead of typing in the four-digit passcode each time, you can tap your finger on the home button.

Apple now allows other

app developers to use that fingerprint ID, too. So you can unlock banking apps with just a tap of your finger. In its upcoming Android update, called M, Google is also promising to make it easier for app makers to incorporate fingerprint ID. And Microsoft plans support for biometrics — such as a fingerprint or iris scan — in the upcoming Windows 10 system.

DOUBLE SECURITY

Major services including Apple, Google, Facebook, Microsoft and Dropbox offer a second layer of authentication, typically in the form of a numeric code sent as a text message. After you enter your regular password, you type in the code you receive on your phone to verify that it's really you. A hacker wouldn't have access to your phone.

You need to go into the account settings to turn on this feature, which goes by such names as two-factor authentication or two-step verification.

It's a hassle, but it keeps your accounts safer. Just



In this Sept. 11, 2013, file photo, an Apple employee, right, instructs a journalist on the use of the fingerprint scanner technology built into the company's iPhone 5S during a media event in Beijing.

Associated Press

assume that your password will get compromised at some point. This extra layer will keep the hacker from doing anything with it.

EVEN SAFER ...

When given a choice, consider signing in with your mobile number rather than your email address. It's much easier to hack into an email account to reset passwords. Of course, you'll have to trust the service not

to use your mobile number for marketing. (I don't like to share my mobile number, so in many cases, I still use my email — knowing I have protection with two-step verification turned on.) Also be careful when creating security questions to reset passwords. Your dog's name? Your first school? These are things someone might find on your social-media page or elsewhere online. □

California commission says Uber driver is employee

BARBARA ORTUTAY

AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — A ruling in the case of a single Uber driver could have much broader implications for the popular ride-hailing service and for companies like it that rely on part-time workers for on-demand services.

The California Labor Commission has ruled that an Uber driver should be considered a company em-

ployee, not an independent contractor.

The driver, Barbara Ann Berwick, filed a claim last year saying Uber owed her unpaid wages and other expenses. Uber has long contended that it is a technological platform used by independent drivers and their passengers to arrange and pay for rides.

The commission, however, found that Uber acted like an employer, and the driv-

er, like a delivery person for a pizza parlor, was an employee.

While Uber holds itself out as "nothing more than a neutral technological platform," it is in fact "involved in every aspect of the operation," the commission said.

San Francisco-based Uber said the ruling is non-binding and only applies to one driver. It is also appealing the decision. □

Stocks rise after Fed stands pat on rates

ALEX VEIGA
AP Business Writer

Stocks edged higher Wednesday after the Federal Reserve reassured investors it was in no rush to raise interest rates from historically low levels.

The central bank said that the economy is strengthening, but not enough for policymakers to signal an imminent rate hike. The Fed's benchmark rate has remained near zero for more than six years in an effort to bolster the economy and encourage borrowing, lending and investment.

Surging stocks and historically low interest rates have gone hand-in-hand over the last six years, pushing the market to all-time highs.

As the economy has recovered investors have been trying to gauge when the Fed will begin raising rates and how aggressively it will raise them. Investors worry that, should the Fed raise rates too quickly, it could stifle growth.

"This makes the market feel more confident," said Alan Rechtschaffen, financial advisor at UBS Wealth Management Americas. "What the Fed is telling you is that they're in no rush to raise interest rates right now."

The Dow Jones industrial average gained 31.26 points, or 0.2 percent, to 17,935.74. The Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 4.15 points, or 0.2 percent, to 2,100.44. The Nasdaq composite rose 9.33 points, or 0.2 percent, to 5,064.88.

Bond prices rose after Fed released its statement, reversing an earlier sell-off.

Fed Chair Janet Yellen said in a press conference after a two-day policy meeting that the central bank needs to see more gains in employment and stronger signs of inflation before it raises interest rates from their historically low levels. She didn't provide a timetable for when the Fed

the day higher, with utilities leading the gains. The sector rose 0.9 percent, but remains down 9.7 percent this year.

The major stock indexes remain close to their record highs set in May, but have sagged in the past month as investors have focused on the Fed.

The Dow is still up 0.6 percent this year despite dropping 2 percent from



A television screen at the trading post of specialist John Parisi, left, on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange, shows the decision of the Federal Reserve, Wednesday, June 17, 2015. (AP Photo/Richard Drew)

would begin raising rates, but most economists expect the central bank will start lifting rates later this year. "With the Fed continuing to maintain a low interest rate environment, that will allow the stock market to continue to be in a place where it can do well until such time as you can have liftoff from the economy that brings companies and earnings to a better place," said Rechtschaffen of UBS.

Eight of the 10 sectors in the S&P 500 index ended

its last record close on May 19. The S&P is up 2 percent for the year and off 1.4 percent from its high on May 21. The Nasdaq is faring the best. It's up 6.9 percent this year and off less than 1 percent from its most-recent high May 27.

The yield on the 10-year Treasury note fell to 2.31 percent from 2.38 percent just before the statement was released. Aside from the Fed, investors were also keeping an eye on negotiation between Greece and its lenders. □



An AT&T logo on a store in Dedham, Mass. AT&T Mobility LLC has been hit with a \$100 million fine for offering consumers "unlimited" data, but then slowing their Internet speeds after they hit a certain amount. (AP Photo/Steven Senne)

AT&T hit with \$100M fine, US company vows to fight

ANNE FLAHERTY
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — AT&T Mobility LLC has been slapped with a record \$100 million fine for offering consumers "unlimited" data, but then slowing their Internet speeds after they reached a certain amount. The company says it will fight the charges. The Federal Communications Commission said Wednesday that the company misled consumers into buying plans they believed would give them unlimited ability to send and receive data, including Web browsing, GPS navigation and streaming videos. But once the consumer hit a certain level, the data on unlimited plans would be slowed down significantly, at speeds lower than advertised, the FCC said. AT&T said it would "vigorously dispute" the fine, which was the largest proposed in FCC history. If AT&T can provide evidence that the FCC allegations are wrong, the fine could be reduced. Otherwise, if AT&T refuses to pay, it's possible the two sides will wind up in court.

"The FCC has specifically identified this practice as a legitimate and reasonable way to manage network resources for the benefit of all customers, and has known for years that all of the major carriers use it," the company said in a statement released to reporters. "We have been fully transparent with our customers, providing notice in multiple ways and going well beyond the FCC's disclosure require-

ments."

It's not unusual for phone companies to slow, or "throttle," speeds on a network as a way to manage congestion. Verizon slows down speeds for its heaviest users, but only on certain smartphones when there is congestion. Once the bottleneck eases, speeds return to normal.

Until this spring, AT&T was slowing speeds until the customer's next billing cycle, even when there was no congestion.

Both Verizon and AT&T had phased out their unlimited plans after data usage grew following the iPhone's launch in 2007. Existing customers, however, were able to keep their unlimited plans.

The FCC says AT&T's approach to unlimited plans violated the agency's transparency rule.

"Unlimited means unlimited," said Travis LeBlanc, the FCC enforcement bureau chief. "As today's action demonstrates, the commission is committed to holding accountable those broadband providers who fail to be fully transparent about data limits."

The hefty fine by the FCC comes on the heels of a federal lawsuit filed against the company last fall. The Federal Trade Commission, which enforces rules against deceptive advertising, said it wants to refund customers who were offered the unlimited data packages, only to be given slower data speeds than advertised. That lawsuit is still working its way through a federal court in California. □

Target says will eliminate another 190 jobs

NEW YORK (AP) — The retailer Target is cutting another 140 jobs at its headquarters and eliminating 50 other unfilled jobs. The Minneapolis-based company says it is trying to simplify and streamline its organization.

Target Corp. said in March that it would lay off 1,700 workers, mostly in Minneapolis, and eliminate 1,400 open positions. Those cuts were part of a restructuring plan intended to eliminate \$2 billion in spending

over the next two years. The company wants to invest that money in its online operations and other areas as it tries to become more nimble and innovative.

In addition, the retailer laid off more than 17,000 people when it closed all of its stores in Canada this year. Under CEO Brian Cornell, who joined the company in August, Target is emphasizing areas like fashion, children's products and home furnishings and

is bringing more organic, natural, gluten-free and locally produced food into its grocery sections. The company also halved the free-shipping minimum for Target.com orders, meaning shoppers in the continental U.S. and military postal facilities can get free shipping on most orders worth \$25 or more. Target shares rose \$1.32, or 1.6 percent, to \$82.29 in afternoon trading. Its shares are up 41 percent over the past year. □

FedEx shares fall on weak quarter and poor outlook

DAVID KOENIG
AP Business Writer

FedEx's latest quarterly results missed Wall Street expectations, as lower fuel surcharges and the strong dollar cut into revenue at its big express-shipping business.

Shares of FedEx Corp. fell more than 2.5 percent in morning trading Wednesday. The package-delivery giant also announced an increase in the mandatory retirement age for board members, from 72 to 75. That could allow Chairman and CEO Fred Smith to stay on the job longer — he will turn 71 in August.

FedEx reported a loss of \$895 million, or \$3.16 per share, in the quarter ended May 31, as results were dragged down by a \$2.2 billion charge for a change in accounting of pension costs. The Memphis, Tennessee-based company said it would have earned \$2.66 per share excluding the pension change, a write-down of aircraft, legal costs tied to settlement of a lawsuit by drivers in California, and other non-repeating items. But that adjusted profit still missed a forecast of \$2.70 per share from a survey of analysts by Zacks and \$2.68 per share from a FactSet survey.

Revenue was \$12.11 billion, below the \$12.39 billion estimate from Zacks and \$12.30 billion from FactSet. Cheaper oil meant that the company's biggest business segment, FedEx Express, saved money on fuel, but that was wiped out by less revenue from lower fuel surcharges. Still, the unit's adjusted operating margins rose thanks to cost-cutting.

Logan Purk, an analyst for Edward Jones, said results were improving at the express unit but he was concerned about the cost of recent acquisitions and shrinking margins at FedEx's core ground business.

"It was a decent quarter, but expectations remain high," Purk said in an interview. □

CVS Health launches makeover for its drugstores

TOM MURPHY
AP Business Writer

CVS drugstores that quit tobacco sales last year are now getting health and beauty makeovers and a shot of ethnic diversity in some cases to attract customers who want more than a prescription refill.

The nation's second-largest drugstore chain said Wednesday that it is adding fresh foods, healthy snacks and expanded beauty options to many of its locations. It also is testing a new format designed for stores that serve Hispanic populations.

CVS Health Corp. executives say these changes reflect customer demand. They also could help perk up store sales outside the pharmacy area that have slumped since the company phased out tobacco last September.

The push from CVS reflects similar expansions by rivals Walgreens Boots Alliance Inc. and Rite Aid Corp. into selling healthier foods and more beauty items. Drugstores have been focusing more for a few years now on customizing their stores to what shoppers in a specific market want instead of simply building new locations.

They've also added clinics and expanded their health care services in part to get more business from aging baby boomers and people who are gaining insurance coverage through the federal health care overhaul. And drugstores are offering a wider array of products outside the pharmacy

to satisfy customers who want to make fewer stops when they go shopping.

"Health and beauty, in particular, is very high profit margin, and CVS has always been a leader there,"

healthier snacks chain-wide. Bagged candy, which occupies the first aisle in many stores, is being moved back and replaced with nuts, trail mixes and granola, among other

easy access to a supermarket. The company recently started testing a new wrinkle to that themed concept with a dozen, mostly remodeled stores named CVS/pharmacy y mas in



Malta, a beverage that is popular in the Hispanic culture, is for sale at a CVS/pharmacy y mas store, Wednesday, June 17, 2015, in Miami. These stores are staffed by bilingual workers and sell brands popular with Hispanic customers as well as products like espresso makers and rice cookers.

(AP Photo/Lynne Sladky)

said Jeff Jonas, a portfolio manager who follows the industry for Gabelli Funds. CVS Health, which recently announced a partnership with Target Corp. to expand its health care business, runs about 7,800 drugstores nationwide.

The Woonsocket, Rhode Island-based chain said Wednesday that it is adding fresh and refrigerated foods to about 500 of its stores and bulking up on

items.

"Consumers used to eat three meals a day, and now they tend to be snacking through the day, and they're really looking for a convenient location which gives them access to healthier foods," Executive Vice President Helena Foulkes said.

CVS started adding groceries to some urban stores a few years ago to serve customers who don't have

South Florida.

These stores are staffed by bilingual workers and sell brands popular with Hispanic customers as well as products like espresso makers and rice cookers. They also sell an espresso-style coffee called Cafecito in their pharmacies. CVS designed the concept based on insights it gained after buying the small Navarro Discount Pharmacy chain last year. □

Allergan adds 'double-chin' drug with \$2.1B deal

NEW YORK (AP) — Botox maker Allergan Plc. is buying Kythera Biopharmaceuticals for about \$2.1 billion, adding a drug that destroys fat cells and eliminates the cosmetic condition referred to as "double chin".

The Dublin drugmaker will pay \$75 per share in a cash-and-stock deal for Kythera, based in Westlake Village, California. The deal marks a 25.5 percent premium

over Kythera's closing stock price Tuesday.

Kythera Biopharmaceuticals Inc. is preparing to launch its double chin treatment Kybella in the U.S., and the company is seeking approval in foreign markets as well.

It treats fat located below the chin by destroying fat cells.

The treatments take about 20 minutes and patients experience visible results

in two to four treatments, according to Kythera. The company has said that it expects annual revenue from the drug to top \$500 million.

Kybella would fit comfortably in Allergan's line of cosmetic injections. Botox is used cosmetically to prevent wrinkles, as is Juvederm. Latisse promotes eyelash growth.

Kythera's pipeline of experimental products includes

setipiprant, aimed at preventing male pattern baldness.

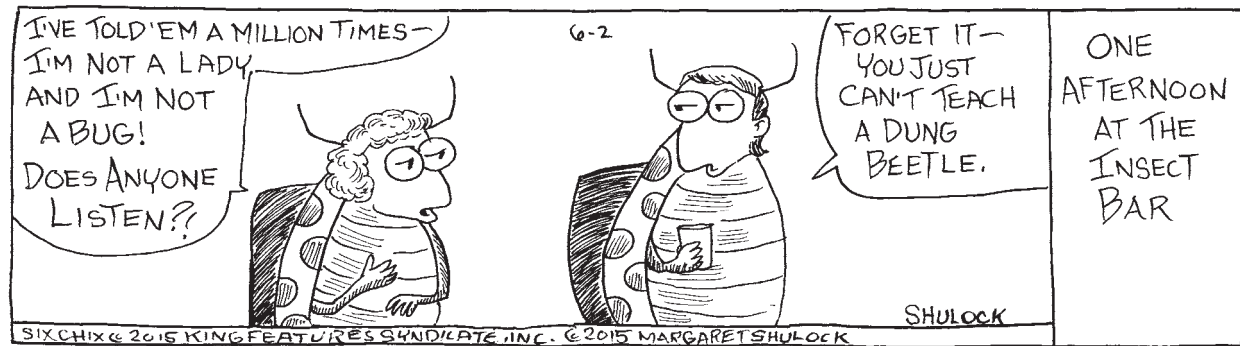
Allergan was bought by Actavis for about \$70.5 billion earlier this year. After completing the buyout, it opted to name the new combined company Allergan.

Kythera shares rose \$13.42, or 22 percent, to \$74.14 in morning trading Wednesday. Its shares have doubled over the past year. □

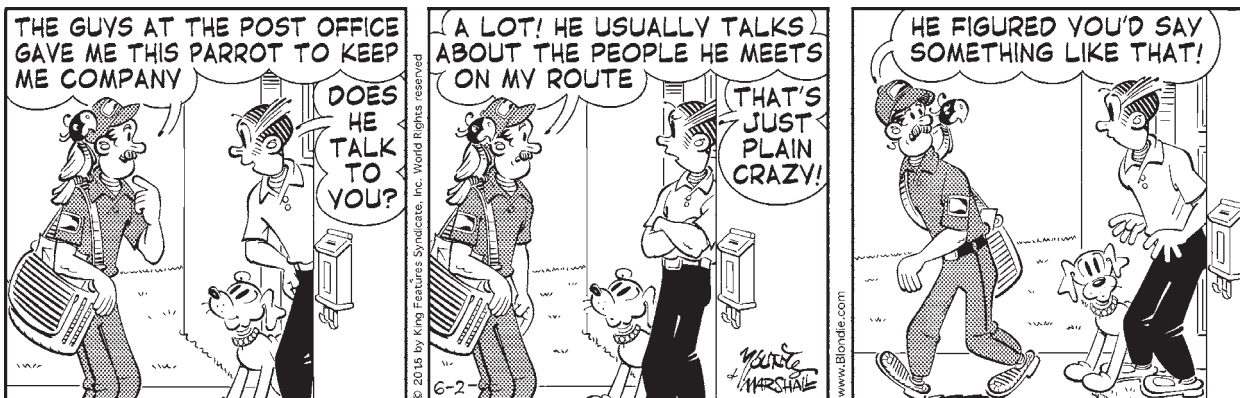
Mutts



6 Chix



Blondie



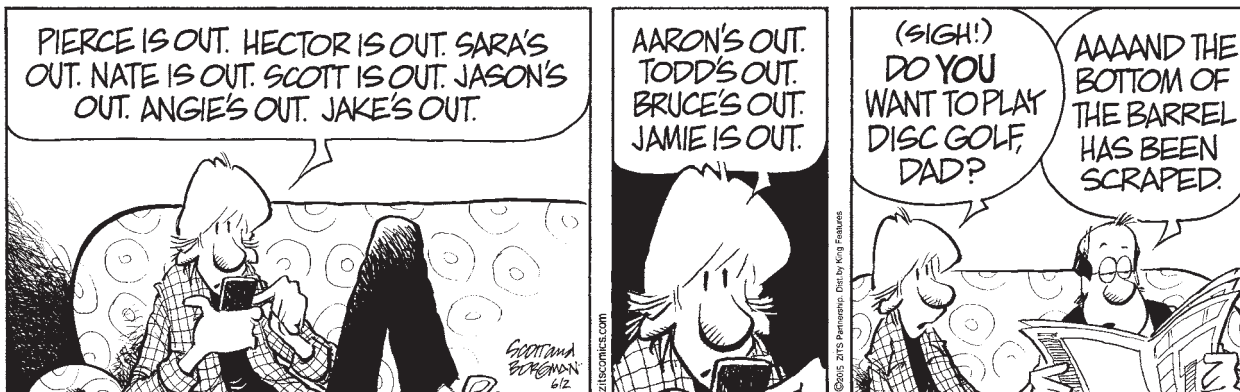
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

2				6	4		1	
		6				2		9
	4		9				5	
		7			2			8
1				9				2
6			3			9		
	1				9		8	
3		9				7		
	2		1	7				5

Difficulty Level ★★

6/02

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

8	5	4	7	3	2	9	1	6
9	3	7	6	4	1	2	8	5
6	2	1	9	8	5	4	7	3
4	8	9	2	7	3	5	6	1
3	7	5	4	1	6	8	2	9
2	1	6	5	9	8	7	3	4
7	6	2	3	5	4	1	9	8
5	9	8	1	6	7	3	4	2
1	4	3	8	2	9	6	5	7

ACROSS

- 1 ___ for; chooses
- 5 Repairs
- 10 As hairy ___ ape
- 14 Hawaiian island
- 15 Monastery head
- 16 Zero
- 17 Traveler's stops
- 18 Romney's defeater
- 19 Swindles
- 20 Wobbles
- 22 Opposed to
- 24 Cotton gin man
- ___ Whitney
- 25 Church walkway
- 26 Sneezing or Doc
- 29 Olive Oyl's hairdo
- 30 Bury
- 34 All ___; listening
- 35 Singer Davis
- 36 Part of the eye
- 37 Of ___; legally an adult
- 38 UFO driver, perhaps
- 40 Paper sack
- 41 British capital
- 43 Suffix for art or balloon
- 44 Uncle Ben's ___
- 45 Slow crawler
- 46 ___ double take; look twice
- 47 Daring deeds
- 48 African nation
- 50 Facial twitch
- 51 Made unclear
- 54 Hatch or Boxer
- 58 Suffer defeat
- 59 Pres. John Quincy ___
- 61 "The ___ Ranger"
- 62 Runs up a tab
- 63 Counter an argument
- 64 Plenty
- 65 Cots and cribs
- 66 Sediment
- 67 Thin opening

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15					16			
17				18					19			
20				21				22	23			
24				25								
26	27	28		29				30	31	32	33	
34				35				36				
37				38				39			40	
41				42				43			44	
45								46			47	
48				49				50				
51	52	53						54			55	56
57												
58				59				60			61	
62				63							64	
65				66							67	

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

6/2/15

Monday's Puzzle Solved

TENT	ASTER	ASKS
OVER	LOONY	BEAU
GAGA	CLYDE	SDALE
ASA	HOES	MUSES
CLIENT	THATS	MAC
HIVES	BLEAK	BAR
AVID	TRIAL	DOZE
DES	BEAST	RAVEN
SMELLY	HONEST	
GAL	KEBAB	
ADIOS	TEDS	OAK
SANITIZING	SAGE	
ANNS	TOEYE	PREY
NEST	SODAS	ADDS

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6/2/15

DOWN

- 1 Leave out

- 2 Window glass
- 3 Melody
- 4 Malia & Sasha
- 5 Native New Zealander
- 6 Diminishes
- 7 Knicks' org.
- 8 Realm
- 9 Male animals
- 10 Very old
- 11 In just a bit
- 12 Blyth & Cusack
- 13 Cozy home
- 21 Leprechaun
- 23 Unfamiliar
- 25 ___ off; sell to the high bidder
- 26 Great buys
- 27 On the ___; not drinking
- 28 Sports building
- 29 Saloon
- 31 Leg bone
- 32 ___ legislation; make laws
- 33 Hits the ceiling
- 35 Gent
- 36 Traitor
- 38 Back tooth

- 39 "There ___ tavern in the..."
- 42 Stray off topic
- 44 Remembers
- 46 Walk unsteadily
- 47 Swim ___; diver's flipper
- 49 Chin hair
- 50 Examinations

- 51 Shapeless mass
- 52 Actor Rob ___
- 53 Pre-owned
- 54 Self-satisfied
- 55 Wrench or saw
- 56 Hold ___; save
- 57 Take a nap
- 60 Mayor Beame

Chelsea Clinton to launch first report on world's fathers

EDITH M. LEDERER

Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS (AP) —

New mother Chelsea Clinton helped launch the first report on the "State of the World's Fathers" Tuesday which says major inequalities persist between parents with women spending between two and 10 times longer than men caring for children.

The report said there is no country in the world where men and boys share unpaid domestic and child care work equally with women and girls — despite the fact that women today comprise 40 percent of the global workforce and 50 percent of the world's food producers.

Clinton, vice chair of the Bill, Hillary and Chelsea Clinton Foundation which helped support the report, told a U.N. event launching it that changes in mindsets, policies and practices are needed to get fathers to play a bigger role.

"I hadn't understood that one of the great joys of becoming a mother would be watching my husband become a father," said Clinton, whose daughter Charlotte is now eight-months-old. "And I am so grateful for his dedication and his support and his love, and the investments that he makes in our daughter every single day. ... His commitment to her is very much in both his and her best interest." The report said about 80 percent of the world's men and boys will become fathers in their lifetime, and virtually all men will have some connection to children in caregiving relationships. It also said that between 61 percent and 77 percent of fathers say they would work less if they could spend more time with their children, but only 92 countries offer paternity leave and for half it's less than three weeks.

The report was produced by MenCare, a global campaign to promote men and boys as equal caregivers, and was supported by several U.N. agencies and many non-governmental organizations and foundations. □

Classifieds

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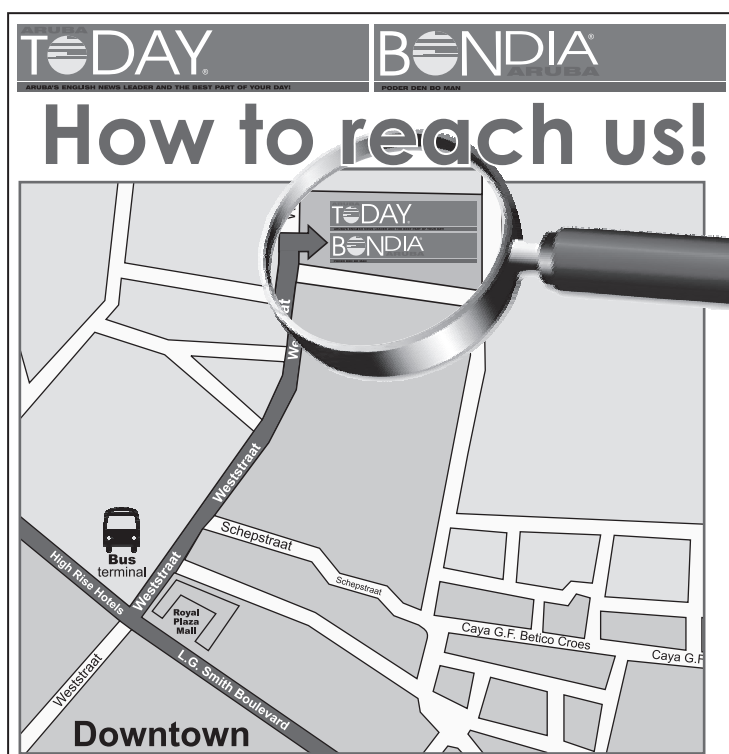
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A factor in shark attack

By **PATRICK WHITTLE**
Associated Press
PORTLAND, Maine (AP)

-- Federal wildlife protections are helping sharks rebound, but they aren't the sole reason for the uptick in encounters between sharks and humans. Expanding human populations and growing use of beaches are major factors too, scientists say.

Recent shark attacks in North Carolina and Florida have made headlines as the summer beach-going season gets into gear. Such attacks have become more common in recent years - the Florida Museum of Natural History's International Shark Attack File says the number of unprovoked shark attacks has grown in every decade since the 1970s.

Shark researcher George Burgess, who publishes the file, said this decade is almost certain to set a record for shark attacks.

"The fact of the matter is, while shark populations rebound and hopefully come to where they once were,

the human population is rising every year," Burgess said. "We're not rebounding, we're just bounding." Americans made 2.2 billion visits to beaches in 2010, up from 2 billion in 2001, according to a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers estimate. A spokesman for the American Shore and Beach Preservation Association said the figure is likely still rising because of the improving economy.

Populations of some shark species have grown due in part to conservation efforts, such as a 1997 U.S. law that prevented the hunting of great white sharks. Dr. Bob Hueter, director of the Center for Shark Research at Mote Marine Laboratory & Aquarium in Sarasota, Florida, said preservation and management have also helped repair populations of species like the sandbar shark and blacktip shark.

The Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 also has helped increase the population of seals, which are a favorite prey of white sharks. In Massachusetts,



Vacationers walk in the surf in Oak Island, N.C., Monday, June 15, 2015, the day after a 12-year-old girl from Asheboro lost part of her arm and suffered a leg injury, and a 16-year-old boy from Colorado lost his left arm about an hour later and 2 miles away in two separate shark attacks off Oak Island.

Associated Press

the growing number of seals has raised concerns in recent years about the animals attracting sharks to beaches favored by humans.

Hueter said the rebounding white shark population justifies vigilance, but he added that it's presumptive to assume there are more shark attacks because there are more sharks in the ocean.

"Sharks are fairly sophisti-

cated. If they are hunting for seals, they are going to concentrate their efforts near a seal colony," he said. "Are you going to go swimming in a seal colony? Of course not."

There were 72 shark attacks worldwide last year, three of them fatal, according to the International Shark Attack File. The deadliest recent year was 2011, when 13 of 79 attacks were fatal.

Greg Skomal, senior scien-

tist with the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries, said encounters with marine animals such as sharks are inevitable as long people keep visiting their habitat.

"If shark populations do return to historic highs, then you know there will be the issue of coexistence, because the one trend we do see is more and more people going to the shoreline," he said.

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24/7

Nicole Kidman shares career regrets at Women in Film awards

SANDY COHEN

AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — When Nicole Kidman was a young actress, Jane Campion offered her a role in one of her early films. Kidman declined the part, because it required her to wear a shower cap and kiss a girl, and she dreamed of being the kind of actress who had long, flowing hair and kissed boys.

Kidman still regrets missing this opportunity, she said Tuesday as she accepted a trophy at Women in Film's Crystal + Lucy Awards. She said she's no longer afraid to attempt the unexpected, urging women to "take risks, raise our voices and honor the fire within." The Oscar winner also pulled a shower cap from her purse and declared she was "ready... to kiss any woman in the room." Longtime friend Naomi Watts, who presented Kidman with her award, took her up on the offer. Also honored during the dinner ceremony at the Century Plaza Hotel were director Ava DuVernay, "Transparent" creator



Nicole Kidman arrives at the Women in Film 2015 Crystal And Lucy Awards at the Hyatt Regency Century Plaza on Tuesday, June 16, 2015 in Los Angeles. Associated Press

Jill Soloway, actress Kate Mara, talent agent Toni Howard and top Warner Bros. executive Sue Kroll. Women in Film has presented its Crystal + Lucy Awards since 1977 to raise funds for the organization and recognize trailblazing women in the industry. Kristen Stewart and "Twilight" author Stephenie Meyer made a surprise appearance to introduce a group of young female filmmakers who won the opportunity to make short films inspired by the "Twilight" series with funding and guidance from industry professionals. □

Melissa Rivers joins 'Fashion Police'

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Melissa Rivers is taking her late mother's place as co-host of the TV series "Fashion Police."

The E! channel said Wednesday that Rivers will join fellow hosts Giuliana Rancic and Brad Goreski when the celebrity fashion critique series returns this summer. Rivers will continue to serve as executive producer.

In a statement, E! channel executive Jeff Olde said that as an original producer with the show, Rivers helped create its blend of fashion and comedy.

Melissa Rivers' mother, famed comedian Joan Rivers, died in September at 81 after complications from minor throat surgery. Kathy Griffin joined "Fash-



In this April 26, 2015 file photo, Melissa Rivers speaks during a tribute to her mother Joan Rivers at the 42nd annual Daytime Emmy Awards at Warner Bros. Studios in Burbank, Calif. Associated Press

ion Place" as co-host earlier this year but left after seven episodes, saying it didn't fit with her kind of comedy.

"Fashion Police" will return for six episodes starting Aug. 31. □



This photo provided by Sony Pictures Classics shows, Zoe Saldana, left, Mark Ruffalo, center, and director Maya Forbes appear on the set of "Infinitely Polar Bear." Associated Press

Forbes, Ruffalo movingly craft a bipolar dad in 'Polar Bear'

JAKE COYLE

AP Film Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The credits of "Infinitely Polar Bear" almost resemble a family tree.

Written and directed by Maya Forbes, the film covers a year from Forbes' own childhood in the 1970s, when her bipolar father, Cam, cared for her and her sister in Cambridge, Mass., while their mother got her MBA in New York. One of Forbes' three daughters, Imogene Wolodarsky, plays a version of Forbes as a 10-year-old. Her husband, Wally Wolodarsky, is a producer. Her younger sister, China Forbes of the group Pink Martini, composed a song for the movie.

"Infinitely Polar Bear," a family tale told with the help of family, could hardly be more personal. It even opens in a montage partly composed from old family movies shot on Super 8.

"I was weeping half the time," Forbes, a writer on "The Larry Sanders Show" and executive producer of the TV miniseries "The Kennedys," says of shooting her directorial debut. "But I'm very comfortable weeping. I cry multiple times of day. So it was a very emotional experience."

The autobiographical nature of "Infinitely Polar

Bear" — which opens Friday, Father's Day weekend — gives the film a close-to-the-bone affection that would be impossible to conjure out of thin air. The film, led by Mark Ruffalo's empathetic lead performance as Cam, has a comic, offbeat tone of its own. "One foot on the banana peel, the other in the grave" is how Ruffalo describes it.

Ruffalo was drawn to the part for the breadth of behavior it encompassed, from dead-eyed depression to manic upswings.

"I have family members that are bipolar and I know what mania looks like," says Ruffalo. "It was written in the script, the swings. We were always seeing how far we could take it out before it fell off the table. But it was also exhilarating to play, and freeing."

His Cam, a well-educated eccentric from a wealthy New England family, is sometimes incapable of handling the demands of parenting two young girls. But with a cigarette hanging off the side of his mouth, he's exuberantly playful and a devoted teacher.

"I went on a whole journey with my father: Is he a good father?" says Forbes. "And the conclusion I came to in the end: He was a great father. I had such a connec-

tion to him and he taught me so many things. I guess I'd say my dad was a feminist because he supported my mother and what she went off and did. And he supported both of his daughters going out and being strong. He didn't want us to be wimps."

By today's standards, or even those of the '70s, many would say Cam was unfit to parent. Their apartment is a jungle of unfinished projects and unwashed dishes. When overburdened, he leaves his daughters at night to blow off steam at a bar with the parting advice: "If a rapist knocks, don't let him in!" But "Infinitely Polar Bear," which takes its name from the younger daughter's mangling of "bipolar," is an ode to a dedicated father (Cam died in 1998) doing the best he can, and a family struggling to get by. (Zoe Saldana plays the mother.)

"I was trying to remind myself that kids are so resilient," says Forbes. "I felt like all around me in the culture currently is: 'Be afraid. Your kids can't handle anything. They have to be protected constantly.' When I grew up, out of some of the hardest things, I got some of the best things. I wouldn't be who I am today and I like my life." □

AP Interview: Michael Douglas in Israel for \$1 million prize

JOSEF FEDERMAN
Associated Press

JERUSALEM (AP) — When actor Michael Douglas learned that he had been chosen to receive the "Jewish Nobel Prize," he pointed out a small problem: Under strict religious law, the Oscar-winning actor isn't Jewish.

Douglas, who only recently has embraced his Jewish roots, is vowing to use the \$1 million Genesis Prize to build bridges between Israel and increasingly assimilated Jewish communities around the world.

"Abraham's tent had its flaps open and so hopefully since approximately half of the Jewish population in the world is outside of Israel, we can find ways to better understand each other and to grow together," Douglas told The Associated Press in an interview. Douglas, accompanied by his wife, actress Catherine Zeta-Jones, and their two children, is in Israel this week to accept the Genesis Prize. Jay Leno will host the high-powered event, and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is scheduled to present the award. Douglas, 70, wearing a light beige suit and purple tie, appeared re-



Michael Douglas poses for a photo before an interview with The Associated Press in Jerusalem, Wednesday, June 17, 2015.

Associated Press

laxed and energetic. He said he remains cancer free after being diagnosed with oral cancer in 2010, and that his marriage to Zeta-Jones is going strong after hitting a rough patch two years ago.

"Catherine is wonderful," he said. "Our kids are here, and we're having a fantastic time. Life is good."

Douglas, known for a career of macho and sometimes morally ambiguous roles, won the Academy Award for best actor for starring in the 1987 movie "Wall Street." Other films

have included "Fatal Attraction," "Basic Instinct" and "Traffic." He also won an Emmy in 2013 for his portrayal of Liberace in the HBO production "Behind the Candelabra." He is set to star in the upcoming superhero movie "Ant-Man." For Douglas, the Genesis Prize — to be awarded on Thursday — caps a process that was generations in the making. His father, actor Kirk Douglas, was born Issur Danielovitch to Russian immigrant parents and raised as an Orthodox Jew. But he drifted away from his faith.

Michael Douglas' mother, actress Diane Dill, is not Jewish.

Douglas said he began to be drawn to Judaism after his father survived a 1991 helicopter crash that left two others dead. He said that his father began studying the Bible with a rabbi. "I was certainly touched by that and the spirituality it brought to him," he said. More recently, he said his son Dylan had grown interested in Judaism and decided he wanted to have a bar mitzvah, a Jewish coming-of-age ceremony for 13-year-old males.

"So he's brought a spirituality to our life and an awareness of Judaism that we did not have," Douglas said. Last year, the family came to Israel after Dylan's bar mitzvah. Douglas says he now belongs to a Reform synagogue in New York.

Similar stories are common in the U.S., where nearly 60 percent of Jews now marry outside the faith, according to a 2013 Pew Research Center survey.

But in Israel, intermarriages and liberal streams of Judaism popular in the U.S., including the Reform movement, are not recognized by the official rabbinical authorities.

Under a complicated arrangement, Israel allows anyone with at least a Jewish grandparent to qualify for citizenship under its "Law of Return." Yet the ultra-Orthodox rabbinate

oversees civil services for Jews, including circumcisions, weddings, divorces and burials.

That means that Douglas and his son could theoretically immigrate to the Jewish state, but as the children of intermarriages, they could not marry or have a Jewish burial here. Under Orthodox Jewish law, only people with a Jewish mother are considered Jewish.

Douglas said he raised this issue when the Genesis Prize Foundation approached him about its award. But he said the group was interested in him because he represented so many other people in similar positions. In its announcement, it praised Douglas' family for its "inclusive approach for Jews of diverse backgrounds." Douglas will have his work cut out for him. The Reform and Conservative movements, which are dominant among U.S. Jewry, have struggled for recognition in Israel, providing an occasional source of tension between Israel and American Jews. Douglas said he realized his selection could raise eyebrows in some quarters of Israel. "I don't expect dramatic changes, certainly among the Orthodox and the ultra-Orthodox," he said. But he said he hoped that Israelis would realize that Jews are a "very very small minority" in the rest of the world and everyone must get along. He said he plans on using his prize money to support a number of Jewish organizations that promote inclusiveness, including the Jewish college organization Hillel.

Douglas comes at a difficult time for Israel and the Jewish people. Anti-Semitism is on the rise in Europe, and Israel has been confronting a burgeoning boycott movement by pro-Palestinian activists who, among other things, have pressured entertainers not to visit Israel.

Douglas said he has not been a target of the boycott movement, but called it "an ugly cancer." □

Producer: Cowboy film is real, but Eastwood pitch was not



This undated booking photo provided by the Montana Department of Corrections shows Matthew McClintock who is on probation for a 2010 conviction for deceptive practices. Montana officials are now investigating McClintock for soliciting investments for what they say is a fake film project.

MATT VOLZ
Associated Press

HELENA, Montana (AP) — Matthew McClintock arrived in full Western garb

stretched over his 6-foot, 5 inch (1.95-meter) frame to pitch a potential investor on a documentary about early Montana cowboys.

He said he was talking to Clint Eastwood about narrating the film's opening, he mentioned his friendship with former first lady Barbara Bush and the two men bonded over serving in the Vietnam war.

Missoula businessman Jim Rather said he promised \$2,500 — and gave McClintock \$1,500 up front — in exchange for product placement and the production of a separate promotional video that Rather could use on his website.

"After having all this happen, I realized he would not look me straight in the eye," Rather said. "That should have been the first thing that tipped me off."

□

Study: Nazi propaganda left life-long mark on German kids

FRANK JORDANS
Associated Press

BERLIN (AP) — Anti-Semitic propaganda had a life-long effect on German children schooled during the Nazi period, leaving them far more likely to harbor negative views of Jews than those born earlier and later, according to a study published Monday.

The findings indicate that attempts to influence public attitudes are most effective when they target young people, particularly if the message confirms existing beliefs, the authors said.

Researchers from the United States and Switzerland examined surveys conducted in 1996 and 2006 that asked respondents about a range of issues, including their opinions of Jews. The polls, known as the German General Social Survey, reflected the views of 5,300 people from 264 towns and cities across Germany, allowing the researchers to examine differences according to age, gender and location. By focusing on those respondents who expressed consistently negative views of Jews in a number of questions, the researchers found that those born in the 1930s held the most extreme anti-Semitic opinions — even fifty years after the end of Nazi rule.

"It's not just that Nazi schooling worked, that if you subject people to a totalitarian regime during their formative years it will influence the way their mind works," said Hans-Joachim Voth of the University of Zurich, one of the study's authors.

"The striking thing is that it doesn't go away afterward."

But members of the group, which was systematically indoctrinated by the Nazi education system during Adolf Hitler's 1933-1945 dictatorship, also showed marked differences depending on whether they came from an area where anti-Semitism was already strong before the Nazis.

For this, the researchers compared the survey with historical voting records going back to the late 1890s. They found that those from areas where anti-Semitic parties were traditionally strong also had the most negative opinions of Jews.

"The extent to which Nazi schooling worked depended crucially on whether the overall environment where children grew up was already a bit anti-Semitic," said Voth. "It tells you that indoctrination can work, it can last to a surprising extent, but the way it works has to be compatible to something people already believe."

Benjamin Ortmeyer, who heads a research center on Nazi education at Frankfurt's Goethe University, said the study's conclusions were "absolutely plausible."

"The significance of this kind of propaganda hasn't really been exposed," said Ortmeyer, who wasn't in-



In this undated file photo from the 1930ies a member of the Hitlerjugend - HJ (Hitler Youth) wearing his uniform holds a big drum as he stands in front of a tent in a camp looking at a flag of the National Socialists with a swastika on it.

Associated Press

Ortmeyer said Nazi educators wove anti-Semitic propaganda into every school subject and extra-curricular activity, even giving students "projects" that included scouring church records for the names of Jewish families that had recently converted to Christianity. These were later used to draw up lists of Jews for deportation to concentration camps, making students unwitting accomplices in the Holocaust.

There were some exceptions, said Ortmeyer, such as the 'White Rose' in Munich and the 'Edelweiss Pirates' in Cologne — youth resistance groups that formed despite the overwhelming Nazi propaganda.

"Those are important examples for young people these days," he said.

The study also noted that Germans born in the 1920s held only slightly more anti-Semitic views than those



In this Feb. 24, 1936 file photo a group of boys march beneath Nazi standards in Berlin.

Associated Press

volved in the study. "Compared to the brutal deeds of the Nazi mass murderers this area of crimes, the brainwashing, was largely ignored."

One reason, he said, is the difficulty of getting older Germans to talk about their experiences of the Nazi period. While Jews who survived the Holocaust vividly

recount the abuse they suffered in school and at the hands of fellow pupils, non-Jewish Germans mostly describe their school years as peaceful and fun.

born in the '40s — even though some in the older group would have gone to school during the Nazi era, while the younger group didn't. □

Pet Photo Series Aims to Counter 'Black Dog' Theory

COLLIN BINKLEY
Associated Press

MAYNARD, Massachusetts
(AP) — It was a summer

day at the dog park when Fred Levy, a professional pet photographer, overheard a conversation that he couldn't shake off.

A woman was talking about "Black Dog Syndrome" — a theory that black dogs are less likely to be adopted than those with lighter coats, perhaps because of superstition or a notion that black dogs are aggressive. Experts debate whether it's a myth or reality,

but it struck Levy.

"A dog shouldn't be overlooked just because of its coat," Levy said. "That's a minor element when it comes to the dog."

That dog park visit was almost two years ago, but it inspired Levy to take on a project that's still gaining international attention. He calls it the Black Dogs Project, a photo series that features black dogs against black backdrops, aiming to capture their beauty

and counter negative stereotypes.

The photos struck a chord online and quickly went viral. Commenters raved about the striking details Levy brought out in each portrait — the soulful eyes, that one floppy ear, a Poodle's ears blossoming with fur. The microblogging website Tumblr counted Levy's blog among its "most-viral" of 2014.

Levy, 45, did it all in the basement studio of his Maynard home, where he lives with his wife, two young boys and a black-and-white rat terrier named Toby.

"I knew that, for this project, it would hit a nerve with two different groups," Levy said. "Pet-lovers would love it, and photographers would like it if I did a good job."

After adjusting to the sudden onslaught of attention, Levy decided to publish the work in a book. It's slated to be published this September, titled "Black Dogs Project: Extraordinary Black Dogs and Why We Can't Forget Them." Part of



In this photo, photographer Fred Levy poses with his dog, a 12-year-old rat terrier named Toby, for a photograph at his home, in Maynard, Mass. Levy, a pet photographer, first heard about "Black Dog Syndrome" in a 2013 conversation at a dog park. It's a disputed theory that black dogs are the last to get adopted at shelters, perhaps because of superstition or a perception that they're aggressive. The idea inspired Levy to take up a photo project on their behalf.

(AP Photo/Steven Senne)

the proceeds will go to a rescue group for Labradors in San Diego.

In the book and on his blog, Levy includes stories about each dog to counter myths about black dogs. Among those he highlights is Denver, a 2-year-old black Labrador that's also a therapy dog. Denver works at an elementary school and spent time in a Boston firehouse after the marathon bombing.

Amanda Lukowski, Denver's owner, said the photos were "breathtaking." "It captured his whole personality," said Lukowski, of Northbridge. "Denver is a gentle giant. He's 90 pounds (40 kilograms) — he's a big boy — but he is the most kind, caring, compassionate dog ever."

Early on, the black dogs that Levy photographed came from owners he recruited through his Facebook page. Recently he also started working with abandoned dogs referred to him by shelters. After training his camera on them, he shares their photos online in search of a permanent home.

But his message to viewers isn't necessarily to adopt black dogs. Mostly, he

wants people to think beyond appearance when they're adopting pets.

"I want people to make informed decisions on the best dog that will fit into their lifestyle," he said. "The fur shouldn't be the deciding factor."

There's no firm science to support the existence of Black Dog Syndrome, and some studies have dismissed it as a myth. Maryann Regan, director of shelter operations at the Animal Rescue League of Boston, said she doesn't see widespread bias against black dogs. Still, she supports Levy's work.

"Anything that helps to break down any barrier to benefit an animal is wonderful," she said.

Among the victories that Levy ties to his project is the story of Annabelle, an 8-year-old black Labrador mix that was abandoned for more than a year, enduring a brutal winter outside. After hearing the story, Levy snapped three portraits of Annabelle and posted him on his blog last month. Two days later, a family adopted her. □



In this photo provided by Fred Levy, a black Labrador retriever named Denver poses in Levy's studio in Maynard, Mass.

(Fred Levy via AP)